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A Monthly Newspaper published in the interests of the Berry Growers, Deciduous, Citrus, Dried and Canned Fruitgrowers, and Market Gardeners.

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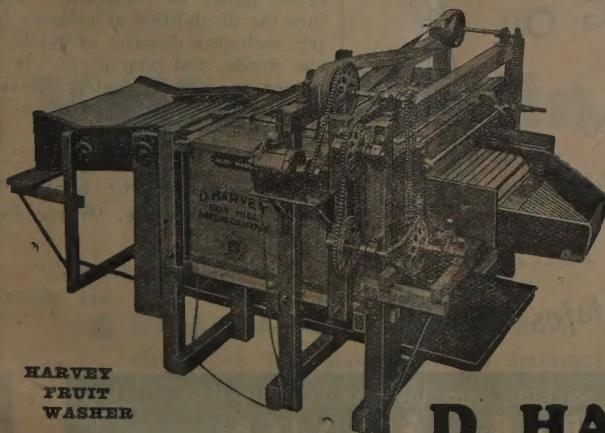
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# Scientific Research Needed

Deputation Representing all Agricultural Industries  
Interviews Victorian Minister for Agriculture.

"THIS IS THE MOST REPRESENTATIVE deputation that has ever approached a Minister for Agriculture," said Mr. J. G. B. McDonald, M.L.A., when introducing to Mr. Hogan, Victorian Minister for Agriculture, on November 11, the deputation organised by the Victorian Fruit Marketing Association, requesting the strengthening of the Science Section of the Department.

The organisations represented were the V.M.F.A., the Chamber of Agriculture, Victorian Central Citrus Association, Northern Victoria Fruitgrowers' Association, Orchardists' and Fruit Cool Stores Association, Southern Fruitgrowers' Association, United Berry Growers' Association, Australian Dried Fruits Association, Maffra Beet Growers' League, Seed Merchants' Association, Pasture Improve-

ment League, Northern Districts' Agricultural Society's Association, Victorian Dairymen's Association, Wheat Growers' Association.

Continuing, Mr. McDonald stated that scientists were being lost by the Victorian Department to other States because of better conditions which were offering. The Science Section of the Department should be increased. Queensland had eleven biologists and entomologists, N.S.W. 19, South Australia eleven, and in Victoria there were only six.

Mr. A. W. Schwennesen spoke appreciatively of the research done by Science Officers. Now ground was being lost. Higher salaries and security of tenure were offered else-

where, and in the other States, and he requested that the system be overhauled.

The President of the Chamber of Agriculture (Mr. A. Bowman), said there was not only a dearth of scientific information in Victoria, but a lack of adequate information service to give producers the information gained.

Mr. J. Leith Gillespie, on behalf of the Pasture Improvement League, said that whereas there were previously six men on pasture work at Werribee, this number had been reduced to four. The work would be futile unless the results could be conveyed to farmers. As Secretary of the University Appointments Board, Mr. Gillespie informed the Minister that there were at present 17 members of the Department of Agriculture registered with the Board for transfer, which meant that they were dissatisfied with their work and looking for positions in other spheres and other States.

The President of the Australian Wheat Growers' Federation, Mr. H. L. Simpson, said that in the next ten years there was a possibility of increasing yields by another 20 per cent.; more scientists were needed to cope with pests.

Mr. Martin, M.L.A., supported the deputation.

## Minister's Strange Reply.

In reply, Mr. Hogan said he did not regard the loss of men to other States as alarming, indeed it was laudable. Instead of Victoria having to go to the other States for competent officers, Victoria appeared the training ground for Australia. Continuing, Mr. Hogan said there were 55 graduates in Agricultural Science and nine veterinary graduates in the Department. Four new appointments had recently been made, and another entomologist would be appointed as soon as a suitable man was found. He considered the work of the Science Officers should be decentralised and that officers should be stationed in the country instead of in Melbourne. He would submit the request of the deputation to Cabinet.

## VIGOROUS RESEARCH POLICY.

### Promise by Victorian Premier.

"Scientific Service Will be Made More Attractive to Qualified Men."

Following the representative deputation to the Minister for Agriculture on November 11, an important announcement was made by the Premier (Mr. Dunstan), on November 18.

The Premier announced the adoption by the State Ministry of a vigorous policy of scientific research into the disabilities of primary industry, including diseases of cattle, noxious weeds, and crop pests. It is intended to make scientific service in the Department of Agriculture more attractive to qualified men.

Teacher (to dirty boy): "What dirty hands, Freddie. Where did you wash them?"

Freddie: "In the spring."

Teacher: "No, I said where, not when."

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## ORIENTAL PEACH MOTH

### A VERY SERIOUS PEST IN THE GOULBURN VALLEY, VICTORIA.

Value of Nicotine Sulphate as a Spray — Lures for Deciding Correct Spraying Times — Importance of Orchard Hygiene — Tests with Parasites.

**B**ECAUSE of the great havoc wrought by the Oriental Peach moth in the Goulburn Valley, an advisory committee was set up in 1934 to co-ordinate the investigation work. The Committee consisted of Dr. A. J. Nicholson, Chief, Division of Economic Entomology (chairman), Mr. S. Fish, biologist, Department of Agriculture (secretary), Mr. F. M. Read, Chief Inspector of Horticulture, and the officer in charge Oriental Peach moth investigations in the Goulburn Valley.

Helpful information is contained in the Committee's recent report.

#### Spraying Methods.

The special difficulty of control by spraying is due to the vigorous habit of the Peach. New tissues are rapidly produced throughout the season, so that cover sprays cannot long remain effective. This rapid production of new growth and the variation in the time of brood emergences in different orchards make it necessary to time very accurately the application of sprays, so that each spray is applied at a time when there is a maximum number of eggs and young larvae exposed. The time for spray application may be determined by the use of lures. One orchardist, who used lures to determine the best times to apply sprays, sprayed five times with lime sulphur and nicotine sulphate. He reported that 20 per cent less of his Peaches were lost owing to moth infestation than in the previous season. This was effected with a light crop, which prior to spraying bore ample evidence of a heavy infestation.

There are

two vulnerable stages against which control can be directed — the egg, and the newly emerged, wandering larva; any toxic spray material directed against these stages must act both as an ovicide and as a larvicide. Only nicotine sulphate has been found to be effective in both these capacities. Field experiments with this substance have shown it to be a satisfactory toxic agent; its chief

disadvantages is that its effective period of toxicity is too short.

During 1935-36 a substance named Kelofofog, which is a bentonitic clay fused with sulphur, was imported from America in an attempt to "fix" the nicotine sulphate and so lengthen its toxic period.

Tests of a mixture of this substance and nicotine sulphate on foliage sprayed in the field showed that under Australian conditions toxicity was maintained up to 29 days, and that it acts as a deterrent to oviposition as an ovicide, and as a larvicide.

Dry mix lime and sulphur together with nicotine sulphate was found to be the next best spray, but the toxic period of the nicotine was not increased. All the accumulated evidence shows that nicotine does exert a controlling influence on the moth.

Knowing the life history of the moth, the correct time for spray application can be accurately determined by the use of lures set in the orchard and examined every day. At least six should be used, and placed on every other tree at a height of six feet, not closer to a headland than the fifth row of trees. Of the substances tested, 10 per cent. golden syrup and water was found to be the best. Water should be added from time to time to counteract loss due to evaporation, and the lures should be renewed every three weeks. The lure can be prepared by three-quarter filling a thirty ounce lacquered can with the above solution and covering it with half-inch bird mesh.

#### Orchard Hygiene Necessary.

Previous work had shown that of the overwintering brood only a small proportion of the larvae remain up in the branches, the majority descending to the trunk and soil at the base of the tree. The larvae spin to the ground on silken threads, and some then migrate up the trunk seeking overwintering sites. This introduces the possibility of the use of bandages. The 1934-35 data indicate that untreated corrugated cardboard band-



"Sunshine" Spray outfit at work in a Tasmanian orchard.

ages catch large numbers of overwintering larvae, and favor the action of native parasites. Further experiments on the efficacy of bandages are being conducted during the Winter.

The following hygienic practices are strongly advocated.

All fruit cases should be thoroughly sterilised, either by passage through a gravity fed steam tunnel or through a boiling water bath.

Autumn and early Spring ploughing followed by cultivation every week or ten days should reduce the number of larvae overwintering in the soil. Where possible, the orchard should be kept clean throughout the season.

Finally all bark should be removed from props, thereby reducing the number of overwintering sites for hibernating larvae.

#### Biological Control.

Two parasites, *Macrocentrus ancylivorus* and *Glypta rufescutellaris*, have been successfully introduced from America and small numbers have been liberated in a heavily infested area. Further introductions from America will be made, and it is proposed to breed large numbers in the Goulburn Valley prior to liberating them.

#### Future Investigations.

A detailed review of insecticides indicate that nicotine and its com-

pounds are the only substances which are both stomach poisons and ovicides, i.e., which possess the necessary properties for the control of the Oriental Peach moth.

It seems probable that if nicotine sulphate is applied at the right times throughout the season, a considerable reduction in the Peach moth population, and consequently of damaged fruit, should result. Tentative arrangements for large scale have been made with certain orchardists, who have generously undertaken to provide spray materials and labor, and to follow instructions in detail, although they realise that the spray schedule to be used is only experimental.

Lures will be exposed in many parts of the Goulburn Valley to find what variations occur in the times of appearance of the various broods in different districts.

The work on the introduction of parasites will be intensified considerably. Last season parasites introduced from America were bred in Canberra under quarantine conditions and were sent from there to the Goulburn Valley for liberation. In future the introduced consignments will be bred out in the quarantine insectaries in Canberra to make sure no hyper parasites are present, and then forwarded to Mooropna where some will be liberated and others used as a stock for intensive breeding in the insectary.

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## TRAPPING FRUIT FLIES.

## Experiments in N.S.W.

A grower in N.S.W. recently carried out experiments in the control of the Fruit Fly. Glass traps are used throughout the year, instead of just in the harvesting period.

Peaches are mainly grown; there are a few citrus trees also. It is stated that when the Peach trees lose their leaves in Winter, the fruit flies go to the citrus trees for shelter and food. So, in the Winter, the majority of traps are set near the citrus trees, and quite a large number are caught in the "off" period. This naturally lessens the pests in the harvesting months, and enables the fruit to be kept clean.

By using ammonia alone in water, in the traps placed on the shady side of the trees, good results were obtained.

Good manners and soft words have brought many a difficult thing to pass.

## Faulty Carriage of Pears

## Batlow Co-op. Wins the "Port Brisbane" Case, but Appeal Lodged

**A** VERDICT was obtained by the Batlow Packing House Co-op. against shipowners for the full amount claimed, £3,123/18/-, but an appeal has been launched.

The "Port Brisbane" shipment consisted of 12,018 bushel cases of Pears and 1,166 bundles of three trays each, shipped to Hull, England, 1934. The ship loaded at Pyrmont, N.S.W., on March 9 to 13, and sailed March 13. Arrived Hull April 21 (first sale, April 23). These Pears were reported by the Departmental inspectors to be the finest shipment of Pears that had ever left N.S.W. There were 71 growers, spread over all the main Apple and Pear districts in N.S.W. concerned in this shipment, and, as previously reported, owing to the faulty out-turn at Hull, the Batlow Co-op. claimed on the shipowners.

In the first place this was done through their principals, Messrs. White & Son Ltd., London and Hull. When, however, the claim was declined, it was decided to take legal action in Australia. The growers' case was very thoroughly prepared by Mr. Breden, of Messrs. Harding & Breden, solicitors, Sydney, who has been working on the case for the past year and nine months. Considerable evidence was taken in England, and the solicitors retained to represent the Batlow Co-op. were Dr. Jackson, of Messrs. Jackson and Jackson, Solicitors at Hull (who fought the "Hobson's Bay" case in England in 1933 on behalf of Messrs. White & Son Ltd.).

All of this took a good deal of time, as the evidence of the ship's officers could only be taken when the ship was

in port in England. However, the case was heard at the Supreme Court (on annual circuit), at Cootamundra, N.S.W., before Mr. Justice Milner Stephen and a Jury of four, commencing on Wednesday, September 30, and finishing on Friday afternoon, October 9. Solicitors for Batlow Co-op. had retained as Senior Counsel Mr. Abrams, K.C., and as Junior Counsel, Mr. Hutchinson.

The defendants, the Commonwealth & Dominion Line Ltd., were represented by Mr. Clive Teece, K.C., as Senior Counsel, Mr. Bowie Wilson Junior Counsel, and Messrs. Ebsworth and Ebsworth, solicitors.

The evidence in England took about 2½ days to read, and a number of witnesses were called on either side. As far as expert evidence was concerned, the defendants called Mr. G. B. Tindale and Dr. Trout, from Victoria, whilst the Batlow Co-op. as witnesses Mr. Broadfoot, of the Department of Agriculture, N.S.W., also Mr. D. Atkins, Chief Inspector, Export and Import Branch, Messrs. Byrne and Wilkinson, inspectors, Export and Import Branch, Mr. J. Holmes, managing director of the Commonwealth Fruit and Produce Co. Ltd., Sydney, Mr. Steel, of the Meteorological Branch.

The defendants, apart from Mr. Tindale and Dr. Trout, called Captain Kirkwood and Captain Smith.

Both sides were called upon to produce various correspondence which was read.

The addresses by Counsel were heard on Wednesday afternoon, Thursday, and Friday morning, and the Judge's summing up on Friday morning, after which the jury retired.

The verdict was for the plaintiff for the full amount, £3,123/18/-. After the verdict was given, counsel for the defendants applied for and obtained a stay of proceedings.

Notice of appeal was subsequently lodged, but it is not known when the appeal will be heard.

All growers will realise the importance of this case to the Pear export industry.

## PEARS FOR EXPORT.

Mr. C. O. Smith, Chairman, Tasmanian State Fruit Board, Urges Continuance of Export of Black Achan and Easter Beurre Varieties.

The Editor, "Fruit-World." Sir,

I notice in the "Mercury" to-day that the Apple and Pear Export Council and Committee of the Apple and Pear Export Council reported on varieties of Pears suitable for export, and recommended that Black Achan and Easter Beurre be cut out.

From my own experience, extending over several years, these two varieties are well worth retaining.

Black Achan is the only cooking Pear going forward by the late boats, and usually sells at a fair margin of profit.

Easter Beurre is one of the safest carriers, and sells well on the last boats.

I have shipped both these varieties for years, and have never received a debit on them, and often get an actually better price for them in the last boats than for B.B. and W. Cole in mid-season.

I sincerely hope these two varieties will be retained—Yours, etc.,

C. O. SMITH.

Woodbridge, Tasmania, 9/11/36.

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# Interstate Crop Reports

APPLES — PEARS — CHERRIES — PLUMS — PEACHES — APRICOTS — CITRUS  
— BANANAS — PASSION FRUIT — BERRY AND VINE FRUITS —

## FRUIT CROPS IN N.S.W.

Apples, Pears, Peaches, Apricots, Plums, Citrus, Bananas and Passion Fruit.

Report from Dept. of Agriculture, October 30th, 1936.

### Apples.

In most inland orchards dry weather and frosts were experienced, and good soaking rains are necessary. At Batlow, Granny Smiths have set a medium crop, while other varieties are moderate to good.

Owing to frost damage, it is very difficult to assess prospects in the Bathurst district, as much injured fruit is likely to fall before development becomes advanced. Around Little Hartley and Bathurst, the damage appears to be most extensive. At Rydal and Bowenfels, 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. of the crop was affected, while on the Blue Mountains and at Yetholme the injury is said to be 15 per cent. and 25 per cent. respectively. The Delicious and Tasmania varieties appear to have been seriously affected, and Jonathans to a slightly lesser degree; generally settings are patchy, ranging from complete failures to almost full crops.

Prospects continue to be very favorable on the Northern Tableland, and all varieties, with the exception of Delicious, promise well at this stage.

The crop is not as heavy in the Young district as was anticipated earlier in the season. Granny Smiths are disappointing as much of the fruit is misshapen, but Jonathans, Democrats and Cleopatras are moderate. Statesman are heavy, but Delicious are light.

**G**OOD crops of Granny Smith, Jonathan, Delicious, London Pippin and Fameuse (Pomme de Neige) are expected around Orange; Democrats, however, are light.

In the Penrose, Mittagong and Oakdale localities generally medium yields are likely, although McIntosh Reds are heavily cropped in the last-mentioned centre. In the Lakesland area, frost and thrips infestation appear to have destroyed most settings.

### Pears.

Winter Cole Pears bloomed heavily at Batlow, but did not set up to expectations, and only fair crops are in prospect. Williams and Packham's, however, promise satisfactorily. Owing to frost damage, it is not possible to estimate with any degree of accuracy the crop in the Bathurst district. Generally the outlook for Pears is excellent on the Northern Tableland.

Good crops of Williams and Packham's Triumph are reported from the Orange district, but Beurre Bosc are patchy. Around Young, there was a heavy setting, but subsequent shedding reduced the crop to a moderate one. Early varieties are said to be poor in the Penrose, Mittagong, Lakesland and Oakdale localities, while Packham's and Williams are medium to poor.

The Cherry Crop ranges from medium to good in the Orange district. Early Lyons are patchy, St. Margarets and Napoleons are good, while the Florence variety is only fair.

Crops variable at Young. — Early Purple Guigne and Burgdorff are good, and late varieties are light to heavy. On the Northern Tableland, crops are variable and in need of rain.

Frosts were responsible for a considerable reduction in the Apricot crop, particularly in Bathurst, Young and Southern Tableland orchards. In the former area, it is said to be a failure, while 80 per cent. was destroyed at Young.

Plums are patchy and light on the Northern Tableland. Around Bathurst, only about 25 per cent. of a normal crop remains. Approximately 80 per cent. of the Narrabeens were destroyed by frost at Young, and other varieties are only moderate to light. In the Orange district, President and Ponds Seedlings are reported to be light. Prunes are patchy in Quambey and Maimuru orchards, but elsewhere in the Young district they are said to be moderate to good.

### Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area.

#### Apples.

On the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area the Granny Smith crop is reported to be very light, but Jonathan, Cleos, and King David set heavily at Griffith and Yenda; prospects for these varieties are also good at Leeton.

Light to medium settings of Packham's and Williams Pears are showing at Griffith and Yenda, although good crops are apparent in some orchards. At Leeton, the outlook is satisfactory.

In a number of orchards the Apricots failed to set, although in others some fruit is being carried on the tops of the trees; generally only light yields are expected. At Currawa, good crops have set.

Good to heavy crops of Prunes are in sight around Leeton, but at Griffith and Yenda, Robes are light and D'Agens are medium to light; Angelina and other Plums promise to yield well.

Medium to good settings of Peaches are reported on the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area, while fair to good crops are in sight in orchards on the River Murray, although aphis damaged some patches not sprayed with tar distillate.

### The Coastal Districts.

Throughout the Coastal belt, continued dry weather has seriously retarded development of all fruits. In orchards on river flats, the position is not so bad, and fair growth is reported. Generally, the early stone fruits lack size, and unless rain falls very shortly the harvest is likely to be disappointing. Early varieties of Apricots and Plums are being harvested, and the bulk of the fruit coming forward is undersized. Some good to heavy crops of Peaches are in sight, and marketing is expected to be fairly general towards the end of November.

Blackburn, Wiggins, W. H. Spinks, Le Vanquer and Paragon promise to yield well at Windsor. Peaches are slow to fill, and they are shedding lightly in the Hawkesbury district. Heavy crops are showing in the Kenthurst and Glenorie localities, but size is lacking.

### Citrus.

The position with regard to the setting of fruit in Coastal areas following the generally satisfactory blossoming appears very doubtful at this stage, owing to the adverse weather being experienced. Trees in some instances are showing distress, noticeably where crops are heavy. This distress is also apparent in groves on uplands, where cultivation was neglected and in those orchards where bushfires were in close proximity.

The Navel crop is practically all harvested, and fairly extensive marketing of Valencias is in progress.

On the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area and in Murray River groves,

heavy blossoming of Navel is taking place, except on trees affected by frosts in the first-mentioned area.

Extra heavy crops of Valencias are in prospect in the Murray Valley, while harvesting has commenced in western parts.

### Bananas.

Many of the growing areas of the North Coast suffered severe damage from bush fires, plantations in some instances being burnt out entirely. Reports indicate that a survey of the total damage wrought is not yet complete.

Supplies from the Tweed Heads district are likely to be restricted owing to Winter crops being finished, and the slow maturing of Summer fruit caused by heat and lack of rain. Marketings for November from the Murwillumbah area are expected to be moderate, although likely to be reduced by recent bush fires. The fruit is ripening at an immature stage in the Coffs Harbour locality, and only light supplies are expected. Dry weather is said to be responsible for the many lots of poor quality fruit in sight around Macksville; medium consignments, however, are in prospect.

The continued dry spell will affect the quantity and quality of the fruit going forward from the Brunswick district during November. A moderate supply of fair quality is expected from the Woodburn area.

Plantations are making very little growth around Lismore and fruit is ripening in an unripe state.

### Passion Fruit.

Around Tweed Heads, the small areas of crops are showing the effects of the dry spell.

Marketing of early fruit is proceeding in the Mullumbimby district, but dry weather and fires will reduce the yield.

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Some fair quality fruit is available at Macksville, although only in small quantities.

Heavy marketing is likely in the Lismore districts during November. Some extension of the area under crop is contemplated in the Channon locality.

Young, 24/11/36.—Mr. T. A. Tester, Secretary the Young Fruitgrowers' Co-operative Society Ltd., reports as follows:

#### Crop Prospects.

**Apples:** Granny Smith, medium to light crop; Democrats, heavy; Romes, fair; Jonathans, good; Statesman, Delicious, light; others only fair. **Pears:** W.B.C., moderate crop; Packhams, medium to light; others only fair. **Peaches and Nectarines:** Nice crop of fruit and quality good. **Prunes:** Medium crop only; Robes being some-

what heavier than D'Agen. Quality promises well. **Plums:** Good crop. **Grapes:** Good crop, nice quality. **Almonds:** Medium setting. **Cherries:** Only a moderate crop handled. Quality generally good and prices satisfactory — much better than for some years. **Gooseberries:** have finished. Only a 20 per cent. crop this year. Quality good and prices satisfactory.

Little Hartley, 25/11/36: Mr. J. S. Cripps, reports as under: The Hartley district this season is light owing to frosts and thrips. This orchard is carrying medium crop. Granny Smith good to light; Jonathan and McIntosh, good; Dunns, good to medium; Spitzenberg and Grav., good; Tasmania, fair; L.P., very light; Stayman, very light; R.B., none; Del., very light.

Mr. P. R. Baaner, Bonny Blink, is the only other orchardist who has any fruit, including Granny Smith and

Jonathan, good; L.P., Tasmania, fair; Delicious, light.

Griffith, N.S.W., 25/11/36: Mr. R. Mallinton, Griffith Producers' Co-op. reports under date: Very severe frost in October, followed by one as late as November 11, which did a fair amount of damage.

Apricots very severely affected, and there will only be about 50 per cent. of this crop this year.

Early varieties of Grapes, including Grenache and Pedros suffered in the early frost and the tonnages of these varieties will be below normal. Other varieties are showing fair, and the crop should be up to the usual tonnage.

Granny Smith Apples very light, red apples good, Robe Prunes light, D'Agen Prunes medium.

Canning Peaches suffered slight damage with frost and tonnages will be down on last year's figures.

**Citrus:** Blossomed fairly well and there appears to be a fair setting. There is the usual fairly heavy drop in December, but prospects at the present time are fairly good.

The above remarks apply fairly generally to the irrigation area.

The districts of Bathurst, Orange, Young and Batlow also suffered with the early frost, and we believe crops in the Bathurst and Orange districts as a result are very poor.

In the coastal districts near Sydney the citrus growers are suffering severely from the dry spell, and if rain does not come very soon there will be very little citrus there next year. The writer was in Gosford last week, and was informed that there is only about 5 per cent. Navel setting shown at present.

#### APPLES AND PEARS IN N.S.W.

A INTERESTING REVIEW of the coming Apple and Pears crops in N.S.W. is to hand from Mr. H. V. Smith, manager, Batlow Packing House Co., under date November 20, as follows:

It would now appear as if the earlier prospects of a heavy crop of Apples and Pears in N.S.W. will not be realised. Growers in some districts have had the misfortune to either lose or have their crops heavily thinned by frosts and cold weather generally or for other reasons.

In the irrigation area, Grannies are definitely light, with here and there a better crop than usual. Bathurst growers have been very unfortunate with frost injury very seriously reducing both Apples and Pears — the latter up to 90 per cent. loss. We wish to express to growers in these districts our sincere regret at their misfortune.

A brief summary of crop prospects as at present is as follow:

Armidale, Uralla, Kentucky: Medium to good crops of Grannies Jonathans, Democrats and Pears.

Bathurst: Light to medium crops of Apples. Pears very light.

Batlow: There was a severe frost at Batlow on November 10, which had a serious effect on orchards at the southern end of this district. Some growers in this area lost 80 to 90 per cent. The loss in regard to the district generally will be approximately 25 per cent.

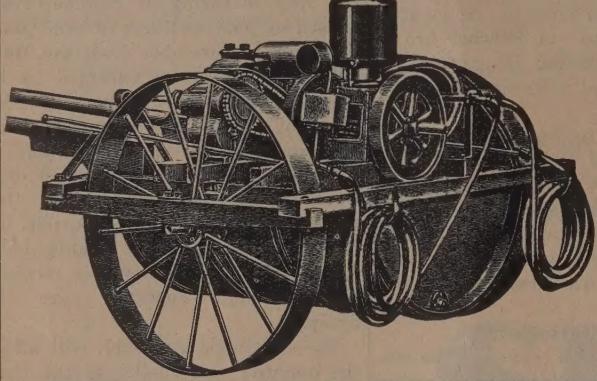
At Kunama, which is a few miles further south and a higher elevation, the loss was 100 per cent.

Whereas a record crop was expected in Batlow, prospects have now been reduced to just about a normal crop, certainly a good deal better than

N.S.W. Crop Reports (continued on p. 9).

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## Victorian Fruit Crop Prospects

**R**EPORTS RECEIVED by the Superintendent of Horticulture (Mr. J. M. Ward) from district orchard supervisors regarding the coming fruits prospects are as follows:

Mr. J. Thomlinson submits the following report from Bendigo. The Apple crop is only fair. Delicious are very light, 20 per cent., Jonathans patchy (50 per cent.), Romes blossoming well, but thrips in late blossom, Granny Smiths 75 per cent., Cleo, a full crop. All varieties of Pears good except W. Nelis (20 per cent.) Apricots, Cherries and Peaches have been cut by frosts, and only a 20 per cent. crop expected.

In the Castlemaine district the stone fruits have been badly damaged by frosts, and only 10 per cent. crop showing. Apples are expected to be normal except for Del. (20 per cent.) and Jon. (50 per cent.).

In the Harcourt district Apples look like having an average crop, but Delicious light.

Pears are all good except W. Nelis (20 per cent.), and stone fruit is expected to yield about 50 per cent.

At Rheola, Granny Smiths are good, Rome Beauty (75 per cent.), and Dunns (50 per cent.). Pears: B. Bosc, heavy, Packhams medium.

For the Gippsland district, Mr. G. W. B. Davidson has reported the following:—At Warragul, Nilma, Darnum, Drouin, Bunyip, Garfield, Tyngong and Pakenham districts the crops are fair—Jonathans 50 per cent.-75 per cent., Granny Smith 80 per cent., Yates 80 per cent., Rome Beauty and Five Crowns promise full crop, Delicious 50-70 per cent. At the first four centres mentioned above, Democrats are estimated to yield a 70 per cent. crop, and Statesman 80 per cent.

At Warragul, Nilma and Darnum Peaches are fair, and at Drouin Pears and Plums are only medium. At Bunyip, Tynong, and Garfield, Pears, Plums, Apricots and Peaches indicate a yield of from 40 per cent. to 75 per cent. Pears, Plums and Apricots from 50 per cent. to 85 per cent. are expected at Pakenham.

Diamond Creek district, reported by Mr. G. M. Fletcher, is estimated to produce a poor crop of Romes, Crowns and Statesman, and about 25 per cent. Jonathan. Stewarts (Ballarat) are best in this district, with 75 per cent. Apricots and Cherries are only fair; Plums and Prunes are badly damaged by frosts, and Quinces are damaged by thrips. An excellent crop of all varieties of Pears is expected, and Peaches are setting well.

Mr. H. L. Hatfield has reported on the Geelong district, which district appears to have quite a good prospect. Apple varieties are Jonathan, Gravenstein, Dunns, Stewarts (Ballarat), Reinette, Stone P., Delicious, Granny Smith and Rome Beauty.

N.S.W. Crop Reports (continued from p. 8).

last year, particularly with the late Apples. The northern part of the district was practically not affected by the frost at all, except on one or two low flat situations.

Griffith, Leeton: Grannies light. Red Apples good.

Orange: Apples good to heavy. Pears medium. Cherries normal. Plums rather on light side.

Penrose, Tallong district: Jonathans and Grannies good. L.P. and Delicious light.

Young and District: Medium to heavy crops of Apples. Grannies bumpy. Pears medium — some loss through frost in this district.

mer 60 per cent., and Delicious 50 per cent. Romes showing nice bloom.

Pears.—Full crops are likely of B. Anjou, B. Cap., Broom Park, Keiffer, Howell, Packhams, Williams, W. Cole, W. Nelis, and G. Moreau, while Josephine is estimated at 75 per cent. and B. Boss 60 per cent.

Plums are good except for Satsuma, which are patchy. Apricots are calculated at about a 35 per cent. crop.

The Mildura district, reported by R. Roberts, is as follows:—Red Cliffs: Citrus, Val. Late blossomed well, promise of good crop; W. N. blossomed well, cold snap causing fruit to drop. Prunes are expected to yield about 80 per cent., and the vines — Sultanas, Currants, etc., should be up to average.

Slight damage from wind. William and Packhams are the two main varieties of Pears grown, and a 90 per cent. set is expected. Apricots are poor (20 per cent.), but Cherries and Peaches are estimated at about 75 per cent. In the Merbein locality, a full crop of Wash Navels, Valencia Late, Commons, Mandarins and Lemons is expected. Both Fellement and Sugar Prunes have set heavily, and a 90 per cent. crop is likely. The vines, Sultanas, Currants, Gordos and Walt-hams, should be well up to average, but slight damage was caused by wind and frost. Almonds are expected to bear a full crop.

Around Mildura, Nicholls Point, and Irymple, the citrus trees have blossomed heavily, too early to estimate crop. Apricots have set well, but slight loss was caused by wind storm.

Williams Pears have set well, and an 80 per cent. crop is anticipated. Prunes are good, a full crop being likely; the same applies to Almonds. Vines have been slightly damaged by wind and frost, but they should be up to average.

Mr. D. D. Brown (Swan Hill) states that Sultanas, Currants, and Table Grapes look well, but it is too soon to give a true account. The Navel Oranges blossomed heavily. A very light crop of Valencias will be the result of last year's heavy crop.

Apricots and Peaches appear to have a fair crop of about 60 per cent. Prunes about 80 per cent. Brandis Almonds, very light, but other varieties heavy.

Mr. C. W. Wills reports on the Horsham, Elmhurst, and Amphitheatre district.

Apples appear good except Delicious in the Amphitheatre and Elmhurst districts. Very few Pears grown, but a 70 per cent. crop is likely. In the Quantong, Riverside, and Horsham area Apples are not very good. Very light crops of Cleos, Jonathans, King Davids, Rokewoods and Dunns (20 per cent.-40 per cent.), are expected, but good crops of Granny, Romes, Grav., Crowns and Democrats.

Pears flowered well, but William shed heavily. Packhams good, Jos., W. Nelis, W. Cole and Vicars fair.

Apricots are poor (5 per cent.-10 per cent.). Peaches look to have set

well, and an 80 per cent.-90 per cent. crop is estimated. Almonds are also good (90 per cent.). All varieties of Plums flowered well, but the Prunes and English Plums have since fallen. The vines are looking well, and 90 per cent. crop is expected.

At Pomonal, Apples are patchy. Full crops of Newtows Pippin and Granny Smiths are estimated, but other varieties such as Spitzenburg and Jonathans are very poor—10 per cent.—Dunns 60 per cent., Cleos, 40 per cent. Pears are hoped to bear a crop of from 70 per cent.-90 per cent. Cherries good.

In the North Eastern district Mr. A. E. Bullock reports the following crops:

A very small crop of Apples is expected at Wangaratta, owing to thrips. At Stanley and Wandiligong small crop also expected. Around Yackandandah, Staghorn Flat and Baranduda estimations are Jonathans 25 per cent., Yates 60 per cent., Delicious 25 per cent., Granny 25-35 per cent. In the last two mentioned places, Pome de Neige 70 per cent. and Dunns 40 per cent. are likely. At Baarmutha the set is expected to be Granny Smiths 40 per cent.-80 per cent., Del. 30 per cent.-40 per cent., Jonathan and Five Crown 60 per cent. At Kiewa, thrips injury has resulted in a very light crop, the best variety being Granny Smiths, with only 10 per cent. A very heavy crop of Plums is expected around this district.

Mr. Bullock has also reported a portion of the Goulburn Valley district. At Kyabram, W.B.C. Pears are setting well and Packhams and Josephine are good. At Ardmona, Kyabram and districts, Peaches on the whole are good. Pullars Cling in the Ardmona district were slightly burnt with frost, but this is not so in the other places. Other varieties bearing heavily are Pelora, Lewis, Healesville, Goodmans, Thieles, Sims, Golden Queen; Phillips are very patchy, and Goodmans will have to be thinned.

Frosts have caused very light Apricot crops, all bearing about 35 per cent.—Tilton, Trevatt, Newcastle, Alsace, Blenheim, Oullin, Moorpark. Plums are very good. Apples: good crop is expected—Rome Beauty, Cleo., Del., Granny and Winesap.

Mr. V. L. Lawrey reports that in the Cobram district the season is looking exceptionally well, except for Jos. Pears and Apricots. Pears and Apples to date (October 26) free from Black Spot. Apricots free from Shot Hole and Brown Rot. Peaches free from rust and Brown Rot. Apricots were cut out by frosts, and sections of the Peaches were also cut. Williams and Packhams Pears heavy, Jos. half crop only.

At Shepparton, 25 per cent. Orange crop expected. Peaches expected to yield full crops. Apricots patchy, but on the average a 40-50 per cent. crop is expected. Apples are fair, about 70 per cent. Most orchards are heavy,

At Bacchus Marsh Apples had a profuse blossoming, but set very poorly. Yates are expected to yield a 15 per cent. crop, Delicious 25 per cent., Jonathans 35 per cent., Dunns, Granny Smiths, Romes and London's 40 per cent., Stewarts 80 per cent., and Gravenstein 90 per cent. Pears here are much better, both W.B.C. and Packham are expected to yield at 90 per cent. At Werribee, Apricots are poor and Apples 70 per cent.

In the Doncaster district, Mr. W. A. Rolfe has reported as follows:—Peaches and Cherries, full crop expected. Plums good, Apricots medium. The Apple crop is good, with some varieties, but others poor. Jonathans and Democrats are expected to have a heavy crop, while Delicious, Yates and Stewarts are good (about 90 per cent.). Londons and Romes light. Heavy crops of Packhams, Josephine, W. Nelis, W. Cole, Keiffer, and Howell Pears are forecast. Williams, B. Bosc, B. D'Anjou and Doyenne De Comice are estimated at about 80 per cent.

Mr. W. Nunn reports:—Wantirna and Bayswater have a fairly good prospect. Jonathans, Yates, Alfriston, Stewarts (Ballarat), Gravenstein, Democrat, Granny Smith, Pomme de Neige, and Reinette are expected to bear heavily, but Del. and Statesman are rather poor.

Pears.—Heavy crops of B. Achan, Keiffers, Howell, Vicar's, W. Nelis, W. Cole, Packhams, William B.C. and B. Bosc are also expected. Josephine not so good. Cherries, Plums and Peaches very good.

In the Wandin, Silvan and Monbulk area the berry fruits show good promise. The elephant beetle has been doing a certain amount of damage in biting off Gooseberries. Many new areas of Strawberries have been planted. October Purple Plums have set a good crop.

In the East Burwood and Vermont locality, Apples good, except for Stewarts, where setting is patchy, and Delicious and Statesman are not as good as is expected. Pears have set very well, Josephine being estimated lowest (60 per cent.). Other varieties—Keiffers, Howell, Black Achan, Vicar's, W. Nelis, W. Cole, Packhams, William B.C. B. Bosc, ranges from 80 per cent. to full crops. Cherries and Peaches are very good. Such varieties of Plums as Santa Rosa, Wickson, Satsuma, European Diamond, Angelina Burdett, Grand Duke and President are grown, and a fair crop is expected.

Mornington Peninsula is reported by Mr. R. Wadeson. Full crops are expected in Gravenstein, Yates, Democrat and practically a full Jonathan crop. Granny Smiths, Duke of Clarence, are expected to have a 95 per cent. crop., Statesman, Rokewood, 90 per cent., Reinette 75 per cent., Stewarts 70 per cent., Dunns and Stur-

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with Williams Pears, and 95 per cent. crop will most likely result. Packhams are heavy, and W. Nelis and B. Bosc. are patchy, but generally fair about 70 per cent. Josephines are also patchy, but only a 50 per cent. crop is likely. All the citrus fruits are looking well.

Mr. J. K. Muir reports as follows on the Rochester district. Varieties of Pears are Packhams, Jos., Nelis, B. Bosc., Williams and a crop of from 75 per cent.-90 per cent. is expected. Granny Smith, Statesman, Dunns, Jonathan and Rome Beauty all expected to be heavy.

Apricots are poor, less than 20 per cent., owing to frosts. The Peaches, Pullars, Goodmans, etc., require thinning. Plums and Prunes excellent. Figs and vines poor (ruined by frosts). Citrus fair, a large portion being badly frosted.

Harcourt, 23/11/36.

Crop prospects are as follows:—

**Apples.**—Delicious light, all other varieties good to heavy. Where lime sulphur spray (1:25) was used in the pink or first open blossom stage, the crop has been reduced by about fifty per cent.

**Pears.**—Winter Nelis very light. Some orchards show a good crop, others nothing. Packhams set heavily, but shed very badly on some trees; up to 90 per cent. of the fruit fallen.

Other varieties good.

**Plums.**—Light to medium. Cherries good.—Jas. H. Lang.

**Hastings, 24/11/36:** Fruit crops on the Peninsula appear to be patchy, generally.

In some orchards Jonathans are carrying exceptionally heavy crops, while others, especially where the fruit was heavy and small last year, are particularly light.

While it is somewhat early to estimate the setting of Romes and London Pippins, the indications are that there will be very light crops everywhere here.

Great concern was felt a couple of weeks ago at some showers of hail, but, with a few exceptions the damage looks lighter now, as certain varieties recover more than others.

The cool stores are all about to close down for the season after a trying year for shelling of the fruit. Various reasons have been advanced for this condition, but the principal one is the exceptionally dry early Summer which was experienced up

to the first picking of the Jonathans. Later picked fruit did not reveal wilt from most orchards.

Plums have set only a fair crop, and it is hoped no difficulty will be experienced in disposing of it.

#### FRUIT CROP PROSPECTS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

##### Late Frost Causes Damage.

The following crop prospects were compiled by Mr. A. G. Strickland, M.Agr.Sc., Chief Horticulturist, S.A. Dept. Agriculture, on November 18.

##### Apples.

The substantial crop failure experienced in certain districts owing to frosts during the Spring of 1933, was responsible for throwing many orchards "out of step" in the alternating sequence of "off" and "on" years; this occurrence of three years ago still shows its influence, and total Apple crops for the State have assumed a more even year to year balance.

Blooming has been patchy this season, heavy in certain localities, and lighter in others. Despite reasonable bloom on many orchards, setting has not been up to expectations, except in areas which are "out of step." These latter areas, which did not bear last season are showing heavy to very heavy crops. Of export varieties, Jonathan, Dunn's, and Cleopatra are light; Rome Beauty Democrat, London Pippin, and Stone Pippin have set light to good crops.

Apple scab has so far not proved as troublesome as in the past two seasons, drier districts being practically free of the disease, and better control having been achieved, so far at least, in wetter districts.

On present indications, State production of Apples should approximate 500,000 cases.

**Cherries:** Early varieties medium. Mid-season and late good.

**Plums and Prunes:** Average.

**Berry Fruits:** Medium to good crops.

**Almonds:** Good average crops in the Adelaide Plains. In the Murray areas, heavy crop showing.

##### Citrus.

Although it is yet early to forecast citrus prospects, the heavy flowering and setting in all main producing districts indicates that unless dropping of small fruit is considerable, a crop of Oranges above average should mature.

##### Grapes.

A phenomenal sequence of frosts on September 24, 25 and 26 occasioned much damage to Grape vines. Sultananas and Currants were most affected, although various wine grapes also sustained injury in some localities.

A further severe frost was experienced on November 11, and additional losses were experienced, very often on blocks which had been successfully protected by oil heaters during the previous series of frosts.

Pending the completion of detailed surveys of frost losses in each district, estimates of Grape prospects must be approximate.

##### Drying Grapes.

**Sultananas:** Losses of individual growers have ranged high. In Upper Murray districts, crops vary from 50 per cent. to full, and the average for the area should approximate to 60-70 per cent. of normal.

At Mypolonga, aggregate losses were heavier, and less than 50 per cent. of normal crop is anticipated.

**Currants:** Frost losses were not so heavy as in the case of Sultananas, and in irrigated areas 80-90 per cent. of a normal crop is anticipated. In non-irrigated areas, the position is variable; little frost damage occurred in Southern districts, and a good crop is anticipated. Some heavy losses were sustained in the northern non-irrigated areas, and for the district, only a 60 per cent. crop is likely.

**Gordo Blanco:** This variety suffered frost injury in places, but generally not sufficient to affect appreciably the total State crop. A good average crop is expected.

**Wine Grapes:** In certain localities, various wine Grapes were badly frost-killed. In the Murray Irrigation Areas, Doradillos should produce an average total crop; other varieties—Grenache, Pedro, Shiraz—are probably 10-20 per cent. below normal expectations.

**Pears:** Heavy shedding, particularly in areas not having facilities for cross pollination. In Murray River districts where Williams is chief variety, average to good crops anticipated. In the northern district Williams, Glou Morceau and Jos. are patchy and showing a medium crop in total.

Fair crops will be harvested in the Mount Lofty Ranges, and for the State as a whole, the Pear crop should approximate to normal.

**Apricots:** Light generally: a fair crop showing at Mypolonga.

**Peaches and Nectarines:** Normally full crop anticipated.

**Adelaide, November 12.**—Late frosts in the Barossa Valley districts, between Tanunda, Nuriootpa, Angaston and Stockwell, have caused alarm amongst growers in these districts.

In some centres the usual warning was not given, so unexpected were the frosts.

Mr. K. Smith, of Clare district, suffered great loss, practically the whole of his vineyard was destroyed. Vines in the Stanley Flat district were not badly damaged, but the damage on the road to Sevenhills was large. In the Angaston district some oil heaters were employed, but a good deal of damage occurred in the Light's Pass and Gawler Pass centres. Other districts slightly affected were Flossop, Monash, Berri and Tanunda.

These frosts are expected to affect next year's crop as well as the coming crop.

**Gumeracha, 23/11/36:** Mr. J. B. Randell reports crop prospects for the coming season in this district as follow:—

Apple and Pear crops are somewhat variable, in orchards that were severely affected by frost three years ago there is in most cases a heavy to very heavy setting; in those which did not suffer to any considerable degree on that occasion the crop ranges from light to medium. Fruit and trees are looking remarkably healthy and clean, it is doubtful if on any previous occasion there was as little black spot in evidence as now; most growers are of the opinion that this is due to a considerable extent to the dry Winter and Spring, which has been experienced in this State, and a good deal of misgiving is being expressed as to whether there will be sufficient reserves of moisture in the subsoil to carry the fruit to full development and maturity.

In the case of stone fruits a late frost has in quite a number of orchards completely destroyed the crop and in the areas so affected there will of course be no Plums which is the only stone fruit crop grown on a commercial scale in the district.

**Tomato and Potato** crops are being extensively planted at the present time, and the latter will continue to be planted until the end of the year. Quite a lot of bores for water have been sunk during the last season or two and in most instances good supplies have been secured and as a result the irrigation of Potato crops is becoming quite common practice where previously this crop was dry grown.

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## TASMANIA

### Fruit Crop Prospects.

ALTHOUGH FULL RECORDS have not yet been compiled, and much of the fruit may be subject to reduction at a later date, good to very good crops of the leading Apple varieties such as Cleopatra, Sturmer, Jonathan, Cox, Granny Smith and Democrat are promised at the present time. Alfriston, Delicious, French Crab, Scarlet and Crofton are more variable.

In regard to Pears, these set heavily in the first instance, but strong northerly winds have reduced many varieties considerably in certain districts. Beurre Bosc, Clairgeau, Comice and Josephine are generally good, whilst Winter Cole, Glou Morceau and Williams are variable.

Up to the present time, black spot has not been noticeable and trees look healthy and vigorous.—P. H. Thomas.

### The Mersey Valley.

A N INTERESTING REPORT is to hand under date November 25, from Messrs. Clements and Marshall, Devonport, Tas., as follows:—

This district extends along the North-West Coast of Tasmania, from Kimberley to Devonport, a distance of approximately 25 miles. All orchards are privately owned, and range in acreage from two to 220, the general run being about 20 acres.

Crops at present look remarkably well, and it is anticipated the usual crop of about 180,000 bushels will be harvested.

First arsenate spraying is just about completed. The majority of growers used nicotine sulphate with this spray in order to combat canary fly, which is rather prevalent and caused considerable losses last season.

Main varieties grown are Jons, Sturmers and London Pippins. These constitute about 60 per cent. of the total crop. Minor quantities of C.O.P., Dunns, Cleos., Delicious, Granny Smiths, Democrats and Croftons, are also grown. The last four varieties are increasing quickly, as growers, realising the uselessness of growing unwanted varieties, are rapidly grafting over K.D., Worcesters, Crow's Eggs, Alexanders, etc., to the more popular varieties.

Our main troubles in recent years have been lack of late kinds and cool storage, but both obstacles have now been surmounted, the former by grafting and fresh plantings, and the latter by the energy of Mr. E. A. Walpole, who has erected an up-to-date store to hold some 12,000 boxes, and it is now possible to market Mersey Valley fruit from late February until October.

Our local representative on the State Fruit Board (Mr. J. H. Astell) left recently on a trip to India, where he is to prosecute enquiries on behalf of the Board.

### Huon Districts.

Generally a "good" crop is showing. Scarlets are light; Cleos. and Sturmers very good crop; other varieties good. The Huon districts generally good; Channel district in parts affected and damaged by hail, but at the present juncture what amount of damage has been done cannot be estimated.

There has been plentiful rain and now lovely sunshine, so that the climatic conditions are all that can be desired.—J. P. Piggott, Port Huon Fruitgrowers' Co-op., Hobart, 21/11/36.

## Queensland's Fruit Prospects

Many Crops Light, but Prospects Good For Citrus.

THE COMING FRUIT CROP prospects for Queensland are set out hereunder in a letter received from the Director of Fruit Culture, Brisbane, early in November, thus:—

**Pineapples.**—The indications are for a light Summer crop in view of the present dry spell, and the heavy Winter crop just finished. The improvement in acre production brought about by the more widespread use of improved fertilisers may counteract this to some extent.

Increased planting, mainly in already established districts, will not show its effect in greatly increased production for eighteen months. Further increase in planting for the moment is unlikely, owing to the shortage of planting material.

**Citrus.**—In citrus growing centres trees generally blossomed satisfactorily, and a good showing of Oranges, Mandarins and Lemons was evidenced.

The unfavorable dry Spring conditions now being experienced are responsible for heavy sheddings of all varieties, except in irrigation areas, where good average crops may be anticipated. Elsewhere light crops of Oranges, Mandarins and Lemons are forecast.

**Deciduous.**—The crop prospects for the coming season are only fair. A heavy setting of Apples is in evidence, but with weather conditions as they are, it is expected that only a light crop will be harvested.

There will be a distinct shortage of Peaches caused through the very late frosts. Plums should harvest well, and a good crop of Grapes (all varieties) is in sight.

**Bananas.**—The continued drought conditions have reduced the output of Bananas considerably. The fruit is not getting a chance to fill, and bunch production is very slow and unsatisfactory.

**Passion Fruit.**—Good Summer crop has set, but it is very doubtful what the harvest will be unless rain comes within the next fortnight.

**Papaws.**—A light crop. Prospects are poor unless weather changes immediately.



## Cool Stores' Association of Victoria

### 75th Quarterly Meeting.

THE 75TH QUARTERLY MEETING of the Orchardists' and Fruit Cool Stores' Association of Victoria was held at the Commercial Travellers' Club, Melbourne, on November 26. The President, Mr. F. Moore, presided over a full meeting, the delegates present being: J. J. Tully, past Pres.; F. Petty, Vice-Pres.; R. Lawford (Blackburn); W. Mock, G. F. Fankhauser (Burwood East); T. Petty, J. Tully, Sen., D. Whitton and J. Williamson (Doncaster West); G. H. Sprague (Hastings); Col. J. H. Lang (Harcourt); J. J. Tully, F. Petty (Orchardist Cool Stores, Doncaster); J. G. Aird, H. F. Pearson, H. Pump (Ringwood); T. H. White (Somerville); W. P. Mair, H. J. Willoughby, L. G. Cole (Tyabb); A. D. Finger, F. J. Byrne (Wantirna); V. Lawford (Private Stores); E. H. Hatfield (Tynong). In addition, Mr. J. M. Ward (Department of Agriculture); R. E. Boardman (V.F.M.A.), and F. H. Williams (Engineer, Box Hill Cool Stores) attended.

### Correspondence.

A heavy list of correspondence since last meeting included:—

**Depreciation of Cool Stores:** Commissioner of Taxation and Hon. J. V. Fairbairn re allowance for depreciation upon certain equipment. Report received.

**Electricity Charges:** Letter from Mr. G. G. Jobbins, Electricity Commission, replying to claim of the Association for reduction of charge for power during certain periods. Full consideration being given to request and further correspondence to follow. Report received.

**Insurance on Breakdown of Machinery:** Last meeting instructed the Secretary to secure quotes. It was explained that rates were determined upon several factors. Statements tabled from Royal Insurance Co.,

Queensland Insurance Co. and United Insurance Co. The President advised individual stores to peruse replies and make their own arrangements.

**Greater Melbourne Bill:** Letter from Anti-Metropolitan Council League pointing out that if Greater Melbourne Bill is passed, it will greatly increase present taxes. After discussion, the correspondence was tabled. On motion of Cr. Mock, it was decided to give support to the propaganda being undertaken by the League.

**Transfer of Victorian Experts:** President reported upon a deputation to the Minister of Agriculture regarding the loss sustained by Victoria in the removal of expert officers of the Department of Agriculture to other States. While the Minister's reply was not encouraging, a statement had since been published from the Premier stating this matter would receive prompt and adequate attention.

### General Business.

**Publicity:** Mr. R. E. Boardman attended and reported upon the recent publicity campaign undertaken by Orchardists' and Fruit Cool Stores' Association. The campaign was broadly along four lines: (1) display advertisements in the press, educative literary paragraphs; (2) contact with dentists for broadcasting during Health Week, the value of Apples on teeth; the inserting of medical testimony re the value of Apples in suburban and country papers and the issuing of 10,000 "Apples for Health" pamphlets to greengrocers. On a very modest expenditure, valued results had been achieved and the foundation laid for any future effort of this character.

The chairman, Mr. J. J. Tully and Mr. F. Petty, spoke appreciatively of the services rendered, and a hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Boardman.

**Direct Expansion:** Mr. F. H. Williams, engineer of the Box Hill Cool Stores, attended and delivered a paper upon "Direct Expansion versus Air Circulation System." This was fol-

## Commonwealth Loan

Interest . . . . .	3 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> %
Price of Issue . . . .	£97-10-0
Yield . . . .	£3-19-4%

An attractive investment for amounts of £10 and upwards. Any Bank, Savings Bank, Money Order Post Office, or member of a recognised Stock Exchange will supply particulars and accept applications.

**LOAN CLOSES  
not later than 11th December, 1936.**

Commonwealth Treasury,  
Canberra.

R. G. CASEY,  
Treasurer.

## AGRAL 2

The Wetter and Spreader for SHIRLAN AG, Bord-eaux Mixture etc.

AGRAL 2 used in correct combination with practically every horticultural spray has been proved the best wettener and spreader yet evolved.

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A Produce of Imperial Chemical Industries of Aust. & N.Z. Ltd.

# Fruit Transport by Sea To Interstate Markets

IN REFRIGERATOR or COOL, WELL VENTILATED 'TWEEN DECK specially adapted for Fruit Carriage and fitted with powerful Electric Fans.

## FAST MODERN PASSENGER VESSELS

Sail every Wednesday and Saturday for Sydney and Brisbane.  
Sail every Saturday for Townsville and Cairns.

CARGO VESSELS sail Weekly for Sydney and Brisbane (Tuesdays).

## SPECIAL REDUCED RATES OF FREIGHT.

FURTHER INFORMATION, SAILING DATES, ETC., WILL BE GLADLY SUPPLIED ON APPLICATION TO THE UNDER-MENTIONED COMPANIES AT MELBOURNE:—

HOWARD SMITH LTD. A.U.S.N. CO. LTD.  
ADELAIDE STEAMSHIP Co. Ltd. McILWRAITH McEACHARN Ltd.  
MELBOURNE STEAMSHIP Co. Ltd. HUDDART PARKER LTD.

# In what should a young man INVEST?

**A**LL power to the young man who wants to invest some of his earnings in industry! There is a way of doing it that comes easily, even to the man who has but a pound a month to invest; a way for him to acquire an IMMEDIATE holding with his small saving.

The A.M.P. is a tremendous aggregation of investors—mostly small investors—each one investing his savings in the nation's business and, at the same time, making a provision for his dependents, or his own old age, that will be absolutely secure.

The members of the A.M.P. have over £100,000,000 in all manner of investments; mostly in governmental and municipal securities, and private mortgages and loans, all used to develop the nation's business enterprises; to build railways and harbours, to lay telegraph lines, to build homes and business houses, to erect power-plants and extend gas services, etc., etc.; all contributions to the well-being of the people as a whole. Every member has his share in these investments. The money that he puts regularly into his A.M.P. policy to assure his life is set immediately to work to EARN BONUSES FOR HIM.

Membership in the A.M.P. means wise investment in the nation's enterprises, protection for loved ones, and peace of mind for the member—ALL IN ONE!

Talk the matter over, reader, with one of the Society's expert advisers. These men are trained to counsel. You can trust them with your confidence. Ring or write the nearest A.M.P. office, asking that one call on you. If you prefer, ask that a copy of "Investing in Happiness" be posted to you.

# A.M.P. SOCIETY

The Largest Mutual Life Office in the Empire.

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District Offices throughout all States.

lowed with great interest and many questions were asked. Col. Lang (Harcourt) read extracts from a report upon the subject following U.S.A. experiments. It was resolved that "Fruit World" be asked to publish the paper.

**Engineers' Association:** Following a report received upon the formation of a Cool Store Engineers' Association, it was resolved: "That this meeting approves of the formation of an Engineers' Association under the rules submitted, subject to the Executive of the O. and F.C.S. Association giving their approval to any future amendments of the Engineers' Association's constitution."

**Reports Tabled:** The Secretary advised receipt of the following papers and correspondence, which were tabled:—

"Journal of Agriculture," Victoria; Employers' Federation, letter; Tax-payers' Association, letter; "Victorian Pastoralist Services re re-conditioning of oil; circular from Prime Minister's Dept. re alteration of constitution.

**Annual Conference:** Suggestions were invited as to the venue for next annual conference in May. Healesville and Bairnsdale were suggested and the President asked that any further suggestions be forwarded to the Secretary for the guidance of the Executive, in whose hands the matter was left.

## COOL STORE EXTENSIONS.

### Young Co-op. to Increase Space.

The Young Cool Stores Rural Co-operative Society Ltd., in presenting its annual report, discloses that after six years of operations the future of the cool store's business looks promising. Last year the loss incurred was only £252, as against £798 in the previous year, but increased storage capacity has become so imperative that it has been decided to increase the capacity of the stores by 50 per cent.

Much of the improved position of the Society is credited to the manager, Mr. W. C. Dickinson, whose advice upon adding a further 5,000 case space at a cost of approximately £2,000 has been accepted.

## PRECAUTION.

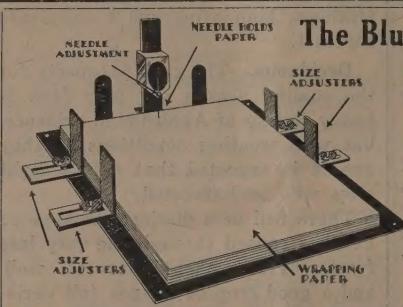
Hank: "Did you hear about the hold-up between here and town?"

John: "No."

Hank: "Some bandits stopped a truck loaded with pigs, took £10 from the driver, and then killed all the pigs."

John: "Why did they kill the pigs?"

Hank: "Why, to keep them from squealing."



### Southern Victoria Pear Packing Co. Ltd.

Blackburn - Victoria

Enquiries invited from Victorian and Interstate Packing Houses regarding District Agencies.

Has been tested and proved under working conditions

## The Bluemoon "Fastpak" Paper Holder

### Fruit Wrapping —

REMARKABLE for the speed and smoothness with which the paper may be drawn from the container.

NO WASTE—the needle-point control ensures that there is no waste or unsightly torn corners.

ADJUSTABLE to take various sizes of paper.

DURABLE—it will give years of efficient service without any cost for replacements.

FAST to work with and definitely improves packers' tallies — at the same time prevents the paper from shifting or buckling in the container.

# Fight the Codlin Moth

With the Most Effective Weapon

## COOPER & SONS

CHEMICAL

### CODLIN MOTH TREE BAND

It is offered with every confidence by the manufacturers as an effective means of control. The band acts as an effective trap, and the chemical qualities of the band kill the grub. Sold in rolls 200 feet long, sufficient to band 140 trees. Ample suitable clips with each roll.

Weather Resisting and Easy to Handle

COOPER & SONS, 626 King Street, Newtown, Sydney

## WOOD WOOL

Finest Grade for Export Fruit.

STRAWBERRY BOXES.

and Fruit Containers.

Prices and Particulars on Application to

AUSTRALIAN BERRY BASKETS

CO.

175 Kent Street, Richmond, Vic.

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## FRUIT BUYERS

LEMONS, ORANGES, GRAPEFRUIT,  
PEARS, PEACHES, APRICOTS,  
BERRIES, CHERRIES.

### BROOKE'S LEMOS LTD.

69-79 WHITEMAN STREET,

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# DRYED FRUITS NEWS AND NOTES

## MID-MURRAY NOTES

### Vines at Renmark, South Australia, Damage by Late Frosts

#### IRRIGATION DRAINAGE CONSIDERED.

(By Our Correspondent.)

Renmark, November 20, 1936.

**T**HIS YEAR is doing its best to establish weather records. The opening weeks heralded in the biggest rain we have ever experienced during January. In September on three successive nights we had a succession of damaging frosts of extreme severity. Following such a record we had a further frost on November 10, which is the latest one ever known in these parts. Sultana vines at the time had rods 3 ft. long, but in spite of this, many growers sustained a fair amount of damage. In the Waikerie area, where frost prevention has been organised on a large scale during the period looked upon as the dangerous one, it was fondly imagined that all danger of frosts had passed, consequently, fire pots were put away and frost alarms discontinued. Growers were caught on the hop, and in one case a block which had escaped all previous frosts had been badly hit, affecting as much as 75 per cent. of the crop in the later frost.

Certain areas which, owing to their peculiar locality, constitute notorious frost pockets, are a definite problem. Growers in these parts will have to adopt particular seasonal operations to cope with the situation. For instance, one grower in a "frost pocket" did not prune his Sultanas until September 23, and as the most damaging frosts came on 24th, 25th and 26th, these vines had not burst, consequently he sustained no loss, while his neighbours, who pruned early, were very badly affected. It has also been noted that, during frosts, a well-worked block always has more damage than in places where soils are compacted. It would seem that while we are going through a frost cycle, and located in a frost pocket, the growers aim should be to plant his cover crops early enough to allow them to be ploughed under during July, or any time before the first irrigation, then leave the land unworked after the irrigation until the end of September or early October, when, under ordinary circumstances, frost danger should be passed.

On Tuesday, November 17, the Renmark North and Chaffey Agricultural Bureaux held a meeting. Mr. Len Moss occupied the chair. After the formal business was passed, Dr. Eric Meier gave an address on "Irrigation and the Block." Dr. Meier spent several years in Germany at the Leipzig University and is attached to the staff of the Renmark Agricultural High School. In opening his address, the speaker thought that individuals on irrigation blocks should aim at making the land a more self-contained unit, instead of looking upon the holding purely as a revenue producing object. It was the worker on a self-contained holding which constituted the backbone of any country. Of the various methods of irrigation, Dr. Meier favored the furrow system because the flooding system also led to a good deal of soil compaction, and it was rarely that soils had sufficient natural drainage to allow of continued flooding of the land. Furthermore, flooding had given rise to serious trouble in all parts of the world, owing to this abuse of irrigation water creating a high water table, establishing a con-

centration of injurious salts within the rooting system of the plant grown. Continued flooding method was the worst system of irrigation, while the furrow system, which was in general use in most areas, was quite efficient if the runs were not more than 5 chains long. Sub irrigation has not received a great deal of attention, chiefly because of the initial cost of installing this method. With this system of applying water to plants a cistern is kept at a given height by a ball cock, from which pipes were laid underground. The permeability of the pipes allows just sufficient water to percolate through to supply the requirements of the plants grown.

With the sub-irrigation form of irrigation, Dr. Meier obtained the best crop of sugar beet ever grown in Leipzig, using a minimum supply of water, and further experiments in this direction are being carried out at the High School in Renmark, which should yield interesting data.

The success of sub-irrigation, Dr. Meier explained, depended entirely upon the permeability of the pipes used, and the capillary action of the soil itself.

At the conclusion of the address, a free discussion took place on all manner of subjects affecting the working of the land, including capillarity, the principles of hygrometry, bacterial activity, salt concentration, and drainage matters.

In passing a vote of thanks by Messrs. H. Newstead and L. A. White, both speakers appreciated the interest taken by Dr. Meier in our general problems and welfare, also expressing their pleasure at spending an instructive and enjoyable evening.

**The Second Irrigation**  
for the season is now in progress, and vines will be extremely glad of a

drink. This irrigation has been a difficult one; in the first place the Irrigation Trust had decided to commence pumping during the latter end of October, but as no one seemed anxious to take it, a delay of a week was decided upon. In the meantime, however, a rise in the River Murray occurred, just sufficient to allow the water at overflow its banks and flood over a succession of low-lying flats, which are highly charged with injurious salts, impregnating the water to such an extent that it often showed a test of over 30 grains of solids to the gallon. It was therefore necessary to wait until water of a better quality became available. In years gone by, an irrigation commenced just when it was thought necessary, with the result that on many occasions water with a large salt content was used, but in recent years, continued tests are made to ascertain the quality of the water, and pumping is only commenced when the water is in a fit state to be used for irrigation purposes. It is of the utmost importance to have water with as little solids as possible, considering that the bulk of solids consist of salt, and that once it is on the land it cannot be removed, excepting by means of leaching out by drainage.

The best we can hope for on un-drained lands is to keep it on the move by altering the position of irrigation furrows once it gets in to the land, or adopting a semi-flood method of irrigation; keeping the salt down beyond the feeding roots. A striking example of the way in which salts are affected in their action may be seen in the charts prepared by Mr. A. V. Lyon, of the Merbein Research Station. Where a two-furrow system has been in progress, the salts are pushed to the centre of the row, and under the vines the downward movement being directly under the furrow, and where irrigation has taken place under the vines these salts are removed from the close feeding roots. Many acres of land have been practically reclaimed by watering under the vines for the first couple of irrigations, and altering the position of furrows in subsequent irrigations so as to keep the salt on the move.—"Nemo."

### Dried Fruits in Hong Kong

#### Australian Trade Growing.

**U**P TO DATE the export trade in Australian dried fruits to China has not been large in comparison. 1935 trade was 50 per cent. above that of 1934, and gives an expectation of developing an outlet in Hong Kong.

By far the largest trade in dried fruits on the Hong Kong market is in Lychees, which come from northern and middle China, compared with which our vine fruit trade is small. U.S.A. provides about 30,000 cases of "Thompson Seedless" Raisins per year, packed in 25 lb. boxes and unbleached fruit is more popular, especially as American Raisins are quoted lower than Australian.

America supplies practically all the dried Prunes for the Hong Kong market, and the following figures relate to all varieties of dried fruits imported into Hong Kong in the past two years, expressed in terms of Australian currency.

Country.	1934.	1935.
Australia . . . . .	£2,140	£3,330
India . . . . .	5,520	7,160
China . . . . .	162,750	143,700
Indo-China . . . . .	2,100	5,500
U.S.A. . . . .	24,350	30,260
Other Countries . . . . .	4,610	3,920
	£201,470	£193,870

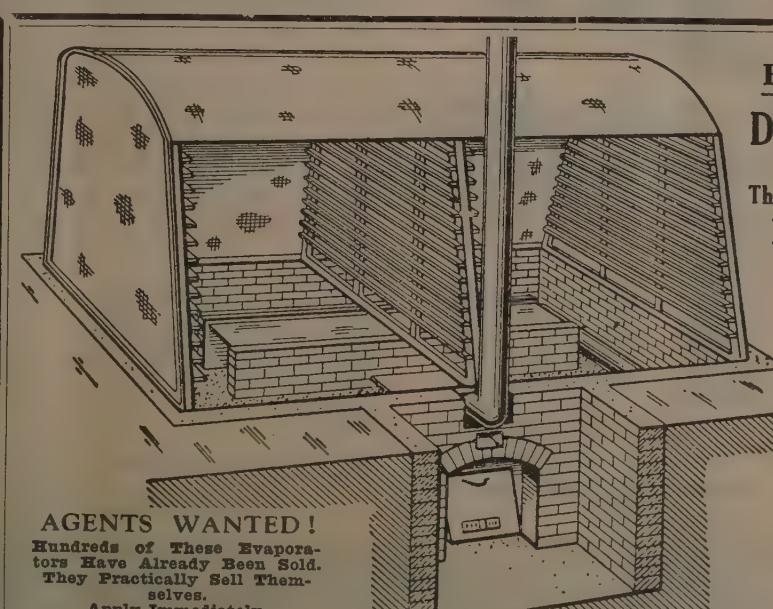
It will thus be seen that although total imports have shrunk, Australia and U.S.A. have both increased their supplies at the expense of Chinese products, suggesting a growing popularity for the Raisin varieties.

#### The New Code.

The motorist shot out from a side turning on to the main road and nearly caused a smash.

"Hi!" yelled the other driver. "Why come out like that? Don't you know this is a major road?"

"That's all right," answered the other. "I'm a General!"



SOLE MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS FOR AUSTRALASIA.

**Horwood Bagshaw Ltd.**

Offices & Works: MILE END, S.A. BOX 381D, G.P.O., ADELAIDE, S.A. Showrooms: 78 CURRIE ST.

### Remarkable Invention

#### Dries Fruit in 2-3 Days!

Rain or Shine.

#### The ALL-WEATHER Patent EVAPORATOR

By this process fruit can be dried in 2-3 days with absolute certainty of satisfactory results. The product is remarkably even in color, and comes out with unimpaired bloom, carrying a really appetising appeal to the buyer. Compare this with the costly and tedious rack-drying process — and, remember, drying can start with picking. Weather cannot affect the efficiency of the evaporator. Rain or shine.

New trays are not required. Simple, economical, efficient, reliable. Requires no attention except for occasional stirring.

Saves Time — Saves Fruit — Saves Racks — Saves Worry. Write for Full Particulars.

## COMMONWEALTH BOARD ELECTION.

Nominations Close December 15.

**T**HE Dried Fruits Export Control Act provides for the election biennially to the Commonwealth Dried Fruits Control Board of two representatives of the growers in the State of Victoria and one representative of growers in each of the States of New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia.

As the period for which the present representatives were elected will expire on February 6 next, arrangements are now being made for the election of the representatives for the ensuing two years. The retiring members, who are eligible for re-election, are:

Victoria.—Mr. A. L. Johnstone and Mr. P. Malloch.

New South Wales.—Mr. L. McLeod.

South Australia.—Mr. H. D. Howie.

Western Australia.—Mr. A. Yeates.

Nominations for election as the growers' representatives for Victoria must be lodged with the Deputy Returning Officer, Commonwealth Electoral Office, 315 Post Office-place, Melbourne, C.I., on or before December 15, 1936. Forms of nomination may be obtained from the Deputy Returning Officer at the address mentioned, and each nomination must be

signed by at least ten growers entitled to vote at the election.

A roll of growers of dried vine fruits has been prepared, and a copy forwarded to each packing shed. Growers are invited to inspect the roll at their local shed, so as to satisfy themselves that their names are duly included. The manager or proprietor of each shed has been requested to notify the Deputy Returning Officer of any names of growers omitted from the roll in order that they may be added to the certified roll to be used for the purposes of the election.

## SECTION 92—"JAMES CASE."

## £25,000 Damages Claimed.

Following the decision of the Privy Council in what is now referred to as the "James" Dried Fruit Case, it is announced that Mr. F. A. James, the Adelaide merchant, will now sue the Commonwealth Government to recover damages as a result of the restrictions placed upon him by the application of Section 92.

In an interview with the press, Mr. James stated that he had delayed action to give the Commonwealth an opportunity of meeting the expenses incurred by him in contesting the case, but nothing has happened, and he has prepared schedules outlining his losses. Seizure of stocks and restriction of trade seem to be the causes underlying his proposed action.

## ESTIMATED VINE FRUITS YIELD.

## 1936 Pack Down.

**A**CCORDING TO ESTIMATES released by the Secretary of the Australian Dried Fruits Association (Mr. W. N. Sumner), the 1936 yield of dried vine fruits should be satisfactory. The estimate of the crop is set at 62,765 tons as compared with 66,904 tons last year. The Currant crop will be down to 12,148 tons, as against the record crop of 21,018 tons in 1935.

The estimate is compiled upon reports for the various varieties from all States, as follows:

	Cur-	Sul-	ran-	ta-	Lexias.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Vic.	3,950	30,005	4,898	38,353		
S. Aust.	5,400	8,581	1,830	15,811		
N.S.W.	715	4,656	397	5,768		
W. Aust.	2,083	466	234	2,833		
	12,148	43,708	6,909	62,765		

In dried tree fruits, the estimate is set at 4,234 tons, representing Prunes 2,027 tons, Apricots 1,460 tons, Peaches 450 tons, Pears 241 tons, and Nectarines 56 tons.

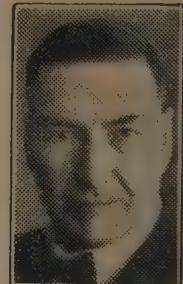
The heavy rains experienced along the Murray in January caused damage resulting in reduced Currant yields. Adverse weather conditions during the drying period affected Apricots and the general quality was below the average, but the quality of Peaches and Sultanas was good.

## OVERSEAS SHIPMENTS.

**T**HE SHIPPING SEASON having virtually closed, we are advised that the total shipments to the principal markets are as follows:

	Sul-	Cur-	ran-	Lexias.	
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	
Great Britain .	19,070	4,268	2,199		
Canada . . . .	13,247	2,063	694		
New Zealand . .	2,816	579	368		
Other oversea					
Markets . . . .	321	321	18		
Grand Total	35,454	7,231	3,279		

The whole of this fruit has been sold with the exception of 3,013 tons, the bulk of which is afloat to Great Britain. During the last week 604 tons of Australian dried fruits were sold in Great Britain, the principal lines being 332 tons of Sultanas, averaging the higher price of £46/3/5, and 256 tons of Currants averaging £27/17/6 per ton. Small quantities of Lexias were taken at an average of £44/8/3 per ton, but the bulk of the Lexias unsold at the moment are in transit, and should meet with a ready market. The seasonal prospects are normal, but it is estimated in the dried fruit areas that the frosts at the end of September reduced the possible harvest by some 7,000 tons.



CHAIRMAN VICTORIAN BOARD.

Mr. Parker Moloney Appointed.

Following the resignation of Mr. J. M. Balfour as Chairman of the Victorian Dried Fruits Control Board, owing to his election to the State Parliament, Mr. Parker Moloney has been appointed Chairman.

Mr. Moloney was Minister of Markets and Transport in the Scullin Government, and has been associated closely with the problems of export control, including those of dried fruit. He attended an Imperial Conference, and he also visited Canada when a trade treaty with that country was arranged in 1931, which secured preferential treatment for Australian dried fruits, representing a preference of approximately £18/13/4 per ton, which is still observed. The late Chairman, Mr. Balfour, celebrated his entry into the Legislative Council on November 17 by supporting the Bill to increase the number of grower-representatives on the Board from four to five, and to extend the authority of the Board to cover all dried tree fruits. The Bill passed all stages as presented.

## VICTORIAN DRIED FRUITS BOARD.

Election on December 10.

December 10 is the date set for the election of growers' representatives from the Mildura-Redcliffs area on the Board. Four nominations have been received for the three vacancies. These include the three retiring members (Messrs. H. V. Davey, S. R. Mansell and A. Rawlings), and Mr. E. T. Henderson, who was a member of the Board until last election, three years ago. The above represents No. 1 district.

In No. 2 district, comprising the remainder of the State, Mr. D. A. Cockroft has been elected unopposed.

The term of office is for three years from January 1, 1937, and there are approximately 1,700 growers eligible to vote in the forthcoming poll.

**MONEY** Available in Various Amounts from Lowest Current Rates. £25 up to £250. Easy and Extended Monthly Payments to include both Interest and Principal. Interviews Daily — No Obligation — Strictly Private. Consult SPECIALTY INVESTMENTS Pty. Ltd., 81 COLLINS ST., MELBOURNE, C.I. Cent. 2643.

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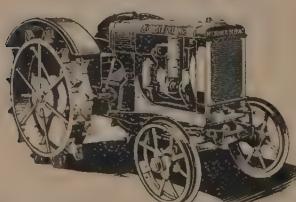
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# Victorian News

## Interview with Mr. A. F. Thiele DONCASTER, VIC.

By Our Travelling Representative.

It was a pleasure to have been conducted to the orchard of Mr. A. F. Thiele, Doncaster.

Introducing myself to this gentleman, who was born in Doncaster 82 years ago, he immediately became the courteous host, kindly telling of the works and experiments he has carried out on this 100 acre orchard, and elsewhere during his lifetime.

Many of these experiments were on behalf of the Government; the Department has received much help from this practical source. The writer has seen many fruit farms in his day, but rarely one, where, the whole work is so thoroughly and systematically carried out as here. Mr. Everard Thiele, his son, has charge of the orchard now, and the sire devotes most of his time to his flowers and shrubs, which surround the splendid home-stead in gorgeous profusion. But, as Mr. Thiele puts it, the place is more botanical than floral. Here are to be seen pines and cedars from the colder countries of the world, as well as trees and shrubs from sub-tropical lands.

Near the house, on the north side, are a variety of Grape vines, trellised and enclosed with bird-proof wire netting. Leading the way to the north we saw some "Grape Fruit" trees

venting washaways. Before the water was laid on all over this property these dams were of incalculable value. Turning left to the west, up hill, we passed through Pear trees fifty years old, which have been hard pruned, showing a good setting of fruit for the coming season, nearly all these are the best export varieties. On the top of the rise are the Lemon trees carrying a good clean crop, and on the downward slope further west are most of the Peaches, which are planted in succession for the Melbourne and interstate markets.

Some Apple trees here have been grafted to different varieties a number of times, to suit the various changes in the trade.

Wherever the bark of the trees provided harbor for pests, this has been cleaned off and hollows filled up, and metal bandages provided against the possibility of borers.

Mr. Thiele is still experimenting with various kinds of Apples and Pears, with a view to finding out the fruiting possibilities. Some trees near the homestead have as many as 12 varieties on them, these are carefully watched and the results noted.

Mr. Thiele was President of the Fruit Growers' Association for 28 years on end; he has judged fruit at many shows in the different States,



A block of 6-year-old W.B.C. Pears at the orchard of Mr. G. A. Peart, Shepparton, Vic.

(citrus) with a crop of ripe fruit of good size. Further along near the front road are a number of Loquats 30 ft. high, carrying a breakdown crop of fruit; then we overlooked a succession of dams, one of which was a quarry at one time, and I believe Mr. Thiele told me, that stone from here was used on Parliament House.

There are many dams on this property, situated on the highest to the lowest positions, overflowing from the higher ones to the lower. In addition to being useful for irrigation purposes, it must help greatly in pre-

venting washaways. Before the water was laid on all over this property these dams were of incalculable value.

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# The Doncaster District

## A Prosperous and Progressive Locality

(By Our Travelling Representative.)

**I**N THE PIONEERING DAYS of Doncaster, a keen friendly rivalry existed between the late W. Lawrence, of Benalla (but originally of Doncaster), and the late Tom Petty, as to who could keep his orchard in the best condition.

This created quite a competitive spirit in producing and marketing throughout this band of doughty growers, and this zeal still remains.

Doncaster has many striking features, but the writer thinks the water conservation schemes are the most prominent. Wherever one looks there are large dams by the roadside, receiving their supplies from the roads, further down the slopes, draining the orchards of the surplus water, and the gullies and creeks with dams across them in practically every property.

Some of these dams, or lakes, have boats on them, and are full of fish. Much of the beauty can't be seen by the tourist of the road. Another striking feature is the number of spraying machines that can be seen and heard on any fine day.

The first spray pump to be used in Doncaster was a hand one, supplied to Tom and John Petty, and was regarded as a work of engineering skill. A little later a young engineer (Russell) constructed an outfit driven by an American Ferrow engine, but this was not satisfactory. In his second enterprise he turned out what is now known as the BaveU. This was, and is, a complete success, the first one supplied over 30 years ago to the Petty's is still going strong, and doing the work well.

Just prior to the advent of the "power sprayer," the district was pestered with Pear and Cherry slugs, the trees appearing as if damaged by fire, with the leaves like dust. "Necessity is the mother of invention," hence the motor pump.

Here again we have necessity in implements that will work right up to the trees, without damaging them,

the trees growing better and lasting longer, also better stocks for Pears and Apples could be used by nurserymen to-day.

A. F. Thiele's other orchard property of 80 acres, at Mitcham, has been leased for a term.

and again invention comes to the rescue with Harveys implements, another local (Box Hill) manufacturer. Probably the latest of these is the "Petty Plows," which does all that is asked of it.

In a closely settled district of orchards like Doncaster, where practically all the income is derived from the sale of fruit, great care in spraying, manuring, pruning, cultivation, irrigating, harvesting, storing, etc., is essential—so again we see necessity supplied with all its needs right at its doors.

Woolly Aphid has been practically cleaned out of this district probably by the use of oil and nicotine sprays, and the introduction of the parasite wasp into the orchards.

Crossing over Blackburn-road we come next to W. Sells fine Pear orchard, which extends to Tunstall-road. This property is undulating, but has no steep slopes like those further north and west; over the way is another of Webb and Son's properties, comprised chiefly of Lemons and Peaches. This is the finest acreage of Lemons the writer has seen for a long time; practically the whole are in perfect health, and showing vigorous growth and a heavy crop of fruit, many carrying 10 cases per tree, the whole batch being heavily mulched with stable manure. Mr. Webb, Jnr., believes in pruning regularly by thinning out the leaders, cutting away useless growth and letting the sunlight well into the trees. The whole place is of 30 acres extent.

J. Riddell's orchard is next, and like the Webb's, has a fine planting of Lisbon Lemons, now bearing heavily, with the balance of 13 acres under Peaches and Pears of the best varieties.

Mr. Riddell's son has taken up the poultry industry, and has considerably over 1,000 head of healthy stock, and is extending his buildings on the orchard. Journeying north, through the Riddell property, and crossing a bush track, we reach E. Crouch's orchard of 30 acres, where some very fine Jonathan and Rome Beauty Apple trees, as well as Lemons, Plums, Pears and Peaches in succession varieties are grown. Dotted about all over the place are numerous fowl houses and pens, the occupants are on free range in the daytime and are closed up at night, as protection against foxes and dogs. Mr. Crouch is also another A.I.F. man who has proved his worth. Following the pines to the East, down hill to the creek, and then up to Hunts-road, East Doncaster, we approach the "Ulster Poultry Farm" of E. Clingen. This farm is not cramped for room like some of the suburbanites, but has many acres for the chicks to roam over; the chicks are provided with movable houses, which are closed up at night, but the layers are all well shedded.

Mr. Clingen keeps W. Leghorns, Australorps, R.I. Reds and Light Sussex. The last-named lay as well as pullets, but become too fat for laying well as they grow older.

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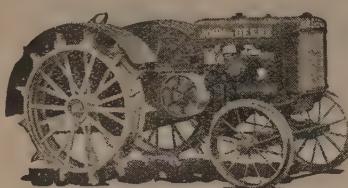
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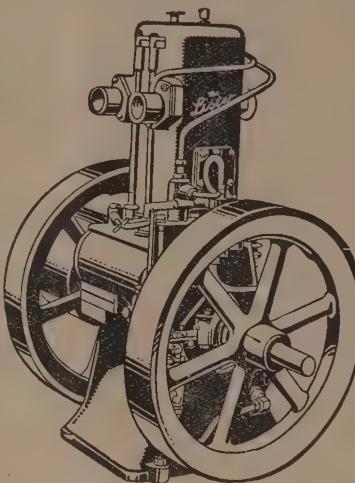
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SOLE TASMANIAN AGENTS.



A five-year-old Pullar's Cling Peach tree at the orchard of Mr. G. A. Peart, Shepparton, Vic.

The proprietor is very particular about cleanliness in all poultry matters, and has a wonderful helpmate in his wife, who takes a personal active interest and is proud of these fine, well-bred birds.

To the east across the road, G. T. Knee has a 40-acre orchard comprised of Pears, Peaches, Lemons and Plums. Here plenty of farm and other manures are used, with heavy pruning and ample cultivation. Mr. Knee says there is nothing to equal the "Petty Wonder Plough" for taking out the last strips. This he does by himself and his 3 horse team of Clydesdales.

Adjoining on the north is W. Standing, who in conjunction with his son, a 20-acre is worked. Here again are Peaches, Pears and Apples. Some varieties of the last-named have recently been grafted to better sellers. These appear to be making satisfactory progress. Mr. Standing is optimistic as to the future of the industry.

Nearby, with a frontage to Springvale-road, Mr. F. W. Fahey was taking advantage of the ground being in good order for harrowing. This was brought about by the recent rains. He was working a splendid pair of bays, of which he is justly proud. Like most of the leading men of Doncaster, he manures heavily, and grows the most marketable varieties of fruit suitable to the locality. His wife is a flower lover, and takes a personal interest in the flowers which surround their natty home. Passing along Springvale-road to the north a number of orchards and poultry farms were visited, the proprietors all seemed happy in their various jobs. Turning to the left and climbing a steep hill, the traveller found himself in L. Wright's orchard, with its frontage to Carbine-street. Mr. Wright was busy spraying Pears on his western orchard.

In addition to Pears, Apples, Lemons and Peaches, there is a trellised plantation of Loganberries, showing well for this season. Poultry farming is also on the go. Mrs. Wright's parents came to Doncaster 91 years ago. Carbine-street is a "cul de sac," and ends in Mr. Beavis' place. There are two of the Beavis', with orchards here. Adjoining Wrights on the west is Russell Tully's. Most of this 40-acre orchard was planted by Mr. Wagstaff. The present owner, R. J. Tully, who is the eldest son of Mr. Albert Tully, and a grandson of Mr. John Tully, both of Main-street, Doncaster, has one of the finest positions in E. Doncaster. From his new home there are splendid views in all quarters, with one of the most magnificent Lambertiana hedges to be seen in Victoria on the north ridge. This hedge is a landmark and guide for tourists. R.J.T. is loud in praise of the Petty Plow, which is tractor hauled, as all the other cultivators are on this property. Here abound Pears, Peaches, Lemons, Plums, Cherries and Loquats, which are planted in the most suitable positions in the orchard.

Alternate supplies to stable, poultry, and 2:2:1 are the manures used, with poultry for preference.

On the south side of R. J. Tully's is the 100-acre estate of S. Whitten, situated on Blackburn-road.

Here are extensive plantings of fruit trees of different ages—Loquats, Apricots, Quinces, Plums, Cherries, Apples, Pears and Lemons, and like all the successful growers in this district, a heavy cover crop has been turned in.

Beverley-road extends east from Blackburn-road to Tunstall-road. On the south side is one of Councillor A. E. Ireland's properties. He also owns another on the corner of Main and Blackburn roads, which he recently purchased from Mr. Clay. This orchard is particularly noticeable to

passers-by, for its large shapely trees and the uniformity of their growth and its enormous dam of water, the width of the orchard. From this reservoir the whole garden can be irrigated by gravitation.

At the rear of the Beverley property is the cool store, under the direct expansion system, of 10,000 case capacity packing and grading house, and store for cases, with garages and stables nearby. A. E. Ireland is one of the 3rd generation of the pioneers who settled here 80 years ago, and is also one of that select band who responded to the call in 1914.

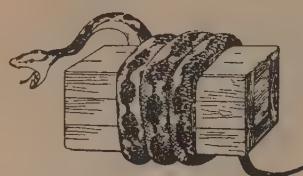
These 60 acres of orchards are planted with Pears, Lemons, Peaches, and Apples, and the manure used is poultry, B. and B., and some added potash and heavy cover crops—Peas, Beans, Oats, etc.—are turned in quickly by a power plant. Another 50 acres of Apples at Trafalgar is worked also, by the Doncaster staff.

Gippsland Fruit Marketing Association.

At the annual general meeting of Gippsland Fruit Marketing Association which was held at Pakenham on November 17, the balance sheet showed a satisfactory position, the credit balance being over £150.

The following district representatives were elected to the executive committee: — Messrs. F. Kennedy (Pakenham), W. C. Harvie (Pakenham Upper), L. Thomas (Bunyip), R. A. W. Bailey (Narre Warren), W. H. Brown (Beaconsfield Upper), W. J. Robertson (Garfield) and T. C. Whiteside (Officer).

**Crop Prospects:** The Apple crops around Pakenham, and particularly at Pakenham Upper, promise very well; in some Gippsland districts, however, the yield is not expected to be any heavier, and may even be a little lighter, than last season.



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## SOUTHERN VICTORIA FRUIT-GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Executive of the Southern Fruitgrowers' Association was held at Box Hill on November 5.

There were present Messrs. F. G. Beet (President), F. C. Pyke, O. White, L. Pepperell, L. Webb, W. A. Thiele, G. G. Miller and Secretary. Apology from Mr. E. Noonan.

**Correspondence.** — Letter received from V.F.M.A., stating that the Minister for Agriculture would receive a deputation dealing with the Science Branch of the Department of Agriculture on November 11. It was resolved that the President and Mr. Webb represent the Southern growers.

From the Secretary, Panton Hill F.G.A., in reply to a letter forwarded stating their Association was prepared to co-operate at all times for the betterment of the industry, but could not see any advantage in affiliating with the Southern growers, the reason given was that they would lose much of their individuality. It was resolved that a further letter be forwarded pointing out the advantages to be gained by united action.

A circular was received from Mr. G. B. Minns, Superintendent for Markets, giving tallies of attendances at the new markets for the July-September quarter of this year, showing an increase of 27 per cent. over the similar quarter last year. Growers who do not hold permanent stands were urged to obtain them for the new days.

From the Secretary, Geelong F.G.A., stating that two new delegates had been appointed to represent their Association, viz., Messrs. F. J. Mullins and S. Hartwick.

From the Minister for Trade and Customs, acknowledging letter concerning the present tariff position of New Zealand Apples, and stating that they were making further inquiries into the matter concerned.

Lengthy correspondence was received dealing with the Greater Melbourne scheme; if brought into force as proposed in the Bill as circulated, it would tend to bring into being more taxation, with doubtful results.

The President reported attending meeting with Secretary at Temple Court called by the Country and City Anti-Metropolitan Council League, when strong opposition was expressed as affecting primary producers.

It was resolved that the President and Secretary represent the Southern growers in dealing with the matter.

From Mr. G. C. Karnaghan, Secretary East Burwood Co-operative Association, stating that this Association objects to retailers in Peel-street,

## VICTORIAN FRUIT MARKETING ASSOCIATION.

THE monthly meeting of the Executive of the V.F.M.A. was held at the Commercial Travellers' Club on November 27. Mr. G. W. Brown presided.

There were present: Messrs. J. B. Mills, W. H. Carne, A. S. Harrison, G. Douglas, K. Eagle, H. M. McLean, F. R. Mellor, F. Moore, J. J. Tully, H. G. Sprague, F. Cave, E. Russell, K. Weeding, S. Brown, W. A. Thiele, W. P. Hutchinson, R. A. W. Bailey, S. P. Cornish, J. M. Ward, the Secretary, R. E. Boardman.

**Science Officers:** Mr. Moore reported representative deputation had met Minister for Agriculture, but the Minister's reply was not satisfactory. However, the Premier had since published a statement that the Science section would be strengthened and adequate provision made for trained men.

Mr. Cornish gave valued details re the present science staff, which showed unfavorable comparison with the other States. It was decided to thank Mr. J. G. B. McDonald, M.L.A., for his valued services.

On the resolution of Messrs. Cornish and Moore it was decided that this Association reaffirms its conviction that it is essential in the interests of the fruit growing industries

and in the centre of the market, trading before the market was opened. The Secretary reported having interviewed Mr. Minns, who stated that the opening hour was being enforced.

**General Business.** — Reference was made to the very successful Field Day held on October 1 at Mr. Beet's orchard, Vermont, when over 300

growers and others interested attended, the day being worked to schedule, great credit being due to Mr. Beet for time and thought given. It was resolved that this Executive express thanks to Mr. Beet in not only making his orchard available, but in making the Field Day such a great success. Mr. Beet, in thanking members, stated that he was more than pleased with the fine gathering, also the spirit displayed by those present. The President made reference to the death of Mrs. Noonan, mother of Mr. E. Noonan, a member of the Executive. It was resolved that a letter of sympathy be forwarded to Mr. Noonan, Senior, a much respected grower over a long period of years. The President reported on Committee appointed to work in conjunction with the Department in carrying out experiments for the control of codlin moth and black spot in Apples and Pears.

It was resolved that the President and Secretary represent the Southern growers in dealing with the matter.

From Mr. G. C. Karnaghan, Secretary East Burwood Co-operative Association, stating that this Association objects to retailers in Peel-street,

of Victoria that the biological branch of the Department of Agriculture should be strengthened so that trained officers may be appointed and retained for these services.

**Apple and Pear Export:** Mr. Carne reported successful Conference of the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council in Adelaide (report published in last month's "Fruit World") and drew attention to the request for a tolerance between 8-2/3 and 9 in. for internal width of dump cases. Inspectors to be asked to observe maturity of Apples submitted for export; need for uniform stencilling, reduction of Apple varieties after 1938 season, necessity for Trade Treaties between Australia and Continental countries (particularly Germany and Denmark), request to Commonwealth Council of Agriculture for collaboration, and he urged that the V.F.M.A. research committee be reconstituted.

Mr. Mellor reported that February Apple shipments were now to be included in quota, and that maturity dates would be taken into consideration in allotting State quotas. Mr. Moore reported re list of varieties of Pears recommended for export, those for export 1937, and the two years "danger" list after which certain Pears could be excluded from export. All others to be prohibited from export. Regarding russet tolerance several varieties were named as normally clean-skinned, but from that list it was decided to request the deletion of B. Hardy. Provision had been made for russet tolerance for Pear varieties. With regard to Apple and Pear publicity he cordially supported the Council's decision to approach the Federal Government requesting a uniform per case levy (not exceeding 1d.) on all Apples and Pears sold in Australia (other than those for processing) to raise funds for publicity campaign.

Mr. Mills said that while not criticising the Government policy re Trade Treaties, the fact remained that the market for between 1½ to 1¾ million bushels of Apples to the Continent had been lost. A small levy would provide sufficient finance for publicity which would ensure consumption of this quantity within Australia.

Mr. F. Cave said that by means of correct publicity 500 gallons of pure Apple juice were now being disposed of per week in Melbourne.

On the motion of Messrs. Weeding and Tully, it was decided to empower delegates to the forthcoming Sydney Executive meeting to vote for a uniform levy of 1d. for export and local trade in Apples and Pears (the additional 1d. on export fruit to go to a local advertising campaign).

**Federal Grant:** Mr. Mills reported that whereas a report had been received from the Minister of Commerce for the additional grant of £50,000 for Apples shipped on consignment last season, which had been rejected, the matter had been re-

## ORANGES FOR N.Z.

### Embargo Partially Lifted.

As we go to press advice is to hand from the Department of Commerce, Canberra, to the effect that permission has been granted by the New Zealand Government for the importation into the Dominion of 12,500 cases of Oranges from the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas of N.S.W., and Fruit-Fly free areas of Victoria, delivery to be in mid-December. The N.Z. Government will control the wholesale and retail prices.

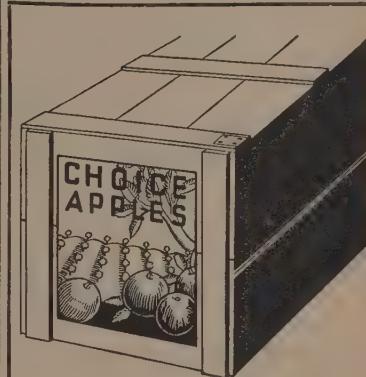
opened and was now receiving consideration.

**Selling of Fruit by Count:** It was unanimously decided to request that Apples and Pears and large fruits be sold by count instead of by weight.

**Compensation for Research:** Mr. Thiele directed attention to the necessity for growers being paid compensation where departmental experimental tests were conducted on growers' blocks.

The need for an experimental orchard in southern Victoria was stressed. It was decided that the next meeting be held on December 22.

Eighteen new members were enrolled.



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Does not Bruise or Damage the Fruit.  
Upkeep practically nil.  
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**Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia**  
(Guaranteed by the Commonwealth Government.)

# South Australia.

## The South Australian Fruit Marketing Association Incorporated

The monthly meeting of the Executive of the S.A.F.M.A. was held at Adelaide, November 6,

There were present: Messrs. H. J. Bishop (chairman), A. O. Petersen, F. B. James, M. G. Basey, E. S. Mason, W. W. Miller, A. Brealey, H. J. Bishop, S. M. James, R. G. Hannaford, R. A. Cramond, H. N. Wicks, G. Quinn, F. F. Redden, J. B. Randell, A. G. Strickland, D. Norsworthy, M. Vickers, A. R. Willsmore, T. Playford, R. O. Knappstein, P. R. B. Searcy, R. S. McDougall, G. A. W. Pope, and the Secretary.

**Correspondence:** Letter dated November 5, from the Government Produce Department, giving extract from letter received from the Trade Commissioner, London, re U.S.A. advertising to increase Apple consumption.

Letter dated October 7, from the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council, enclosing cheque for rebate on Apples and Pears shipped in the 1936 season.

It was resolved to thank Mr. Pope for representing the S.A.F.M.A. at the A.O.T.A. meeting.

Letter dated October 29, from W. J. Wade, representative of Manchester, applying for a list of members of the Apple and Pear Freight Committee of South Australia, and advising that he was forwarding to each

member a copy of a special circular detailing conditions for expansion of contract for fruit export trade with Manchester.

Letter dated October 2 from the General Secretary of the Agricultural Bureau of South Australia, conveying resolutions passed at a conference of branches held at Gumeracha, and also from the Ironbank branch having reference to the question of advertising to increase home consumption of fruit.

Letter dated October 12 from the Minister of Agriculture, advising that at the recent congress of the Agricultural Bureau, a resolution had been carried in connection with Apple bounty as under:—

"That the Federal Government was asked to revert to the old system of payment according to disabilities caused by climatic conditions, such as hail storms and frost, etc."

After consideration it was agreed to advise the Minister that this Association does not recommend any alteration in the present system of payment of the bounty on an export basis.

**Port Brisbane Pear Case:** Letters dated September 28 from the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council

giving information in regard to financial assistance given by the other States to the Batlow Packing House towards legal expenses in connection with "Port Brisbane" Pear Case. Also letter dated October 27 from the Batlow Packing House enclosing a circular giving a résumé of the case, which was decided before a judge and jury of four. A verdict had been obtained for the full amount claimed, £3,123/18/-, and advising that the shipping company had given notice of appeal, and the appeal would be heard in due course before the full Court of three Judges, and in the meantime any contribution this Association cared to make would be appreciated.

It was decided to donate £52/10/-, subject to it being constitutional for such a donation to be made.

**Grade Standard for Apples and Pears:** Further consideration was given to this matter in accordance with the resolution passed at the special meeting held on October 16.

Mr. F. F. Redden stated that at a meeting of the South Australian Fruit Growers' and Market Gardeners' Association, the regulations had been approved with the exception of the words—"one size and," in the description of the "domestic Apples" and "domestic Pears."

Mr. A. G. Strickland read a letter he had written to the Minister of Agriculture recommending the deletion of these words, and in view of this information it was decided after discussion that the minutes passed at the meeting held on September 25 should be altered to read:—

"That we appreciate the action of the Department of Agriculture in referring the matter to us, and members are of the opinion that the gazetting of the regulations as set out is desirable, subject to the deletion of the words "one size and" from the description of Domestic Apples and Pears."

This was carried unanimously.

It was resolved to record in the minutes a vote of thanks to Mr. Strickland for his patience and consideration in this matter, and the chairman stated that the Association was also indebted to Mr. F. F. Redden for bringing the matter under consideration.

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Pears at Renmark.

Importance of Orchard Hygiene.

A temporary inspector has again been appointed by the Department of Agriculture, working in conjunction with the Renmark Pear Growers' Association to have the spraying regulations enforced.

A great many growers in these parts have a small area of Pears, either in a corner of the block or on boundary fences, and on channel banks, which received scant attention in former years, but the success following last year's operations were encouraging enough to have the inspection carried out again this year. The inspector found that there is a general willingness on the part of most growers to comply with the regulations, but as this fruit is only a sideline where a few trees are concerned, these odd trees constitute a definite menace to the grower who operates on a commercial scale, and the small grower has to be continually kept up to the mark with his spraying programme. With one or two notable exceptions, last year's Pears were the cleanest for very many years, the exceptions being definitely traceable to the proximity to a small quantity of unsprayed trees or badly sprayed trees.

It is hoped that by adopting a better system of orchard cleanliness, and getting rid of sundry lots of unsprayed trees, we will be able to repeat last year's record of a low percentage of codlin infested fruit.—"Nemo."

Renmark, 20/11/36.

### S.A. APPLES AND WINE EXPORTS.

Increased Volume.

According to figures released by the S.A. Acting Government Statist recently, 1935-6 showed an increase of £104,484 over the previous year in exports of vineyard and orchard products.

Of a total of £1,628,227, dried fruits contributed £570,415 (compared with £656,858 in 1934-5), wine, £870,818 (£731,568); and Apples £143,608 (£85,269).

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# New South Wales

## Market Reports, Prices, etc., for November

THE usual monthly report from Mr. L. T. Pearce, market representative of the Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W., states that continued fine weather favored the consumption of fruit, but production was hampered in many districts. Most Summer fruits were on the small size. Passionfruit prices collapsed, but Tomato prices remained firm.

Apples sold satisfactorily: the average price of Cherries was slightly better than last year, most arrivals being retailed at 6d. per lb. Pineapples were steady and Tomatoes always wanted.

The unique shortage of vegetables experienced as a result of many months of drought, caused vegetable prices to soar, and it is probable that the fruit position was improved thereby.

The continuance of the drought has not only affected Summer fruits and the existing Valencia and Lemon crops, but hundreds of acres of citrus trees are in such poor condition that it is highly probable that the 1937 crop will be very severely reduced.

The small size of Valencia Oranges in metropolitan, Hawkesbury and coastal regions has necessitated growers relieving the trees of the crop. Unfortunately, small sizes have been a glut on the Sydney market and, as a result, hundreds of cases of Oranges have been burned in the bush. It is regrettable that the fruit-grower does not appreciate the power of advertising and the fact that the Oranges being destroyed contain the very mineral salts, medicinal properties and Vitamin C, which the public of the State is lacking owing to the dearth of vegetables. The time is most opportune for organised publicity, particularly in relation to the health value of Orange juice as a drink.

### Apples.

Since October 27, Tasmania forwarded 48,000 cases approximately to the Sydney market, an average of 9,600 cases per week, and this quantity the market has absorbed with comparative ease, prices, if anything, improving as choice quality became scarce. Victorian arrivals have been probably half the quantity from Tasmania and comprised largely Yates variety, including a few Democrat. N.S.W. Granny Smith improved for the choice quality, prices going to 18/-, and Democrat also went to 13/-. Dels. of large sizes, i.e. over 3 in., had a limited number of buyers and the price range for large-sized fruit had to be accommodating. New season metropolitan-grown Apples appeared on the market on November 19, varieties being Lord Nelson and Allsop's Seedling. Small sizes in this new season fruit were in request by the jam factories, due to their high pectin content. A few Yates from the Batlow district were of excellent quality and selected counts sold up to 13/-.

### Bananas.

Arrivals for the period under review totalled 72,780 tropical cases or an average of 14,556 per week to the Sydney market. Of this quantity, N.S.W. forwarded 62,245 and Queensland 10,535 cases. Quantities increased from 11,000 and 13,000 up to almost 17,000 cases per week, and, as a result, the competition of Summer fruits was felt and values receded.

### Cherries.

Since the beginning of the Cherry season the Young district has forwarded to the Sydney market approximately 62,390 quarter bushel

cases and 1,389 half bushel cases. The Orange district commenced to forward on November 13, since which date 32,133 quarter bushel cases and 64 half bushel cases have arrived. This grand total, 94,523 quarters and 1,453 half bushel cases, has, on most occasions, been cleared on the day of arrival and prices have been slightly better than for the same period last year.

### Valencias.

The end of October witnessed an accumulation of stale fruit in the market, much of it showing black spot. Considerable wastage occurred and endeavors were made to clear it as low as 1/- per bushel case. About the 9th instant stocks of Valencias were considerably lighter than for some considerable time, and values improved to 9/- for especial quality fruit of counts 125,138. The improvement, however, was only of a temporary nature, and before the end of the week, most sales were being made at 5/- to 7/- per bushel with small fruit again definitely unpopular. Late in November the position improved slightly, chiefly in large sizes, which were very scarce. It is reported that there remains a considerable quantity of Valencias on the central coast yet to be marketed, but the continued dryness will influence the quantity of this fruit that eventually reaches the market. Popular sizes are counts 96 to 138 at 6/- to 8/-, this being the 1/- per dozen Orange. Counts 180 and 198 met with good request at 5/- for retailing at 6d. per dozen. Much fruit arriving has been infected with black spot and, unless sold quickly, breakdown occurs. Prices: Counts 234 and smaller 2/- to 4/-; Plain grade 2/- to 4/- per bushel. Two bushel crates 8/- to 11/-, few 12/-.

### Grapes.

Two shipments of U.S.A. Grapes arrived on the market and were cleared at 25/- per net 34 lbs. of fruit. This fruit was packed in cork and arrived generally in good condition.

### Mangoes.

Mangoes from Queensland appeared at the beginning of November, the fruit being of the Turpentine variety. This type of fruit is not popular and sales varied from 5/- to 7/- per half bushel case. The Apple variety appeared later in the month and immediately met with good request at 18/- to 22/- per bushel case.

### Tomatoes.

The month witnessed gradually diminishing supplies from Queensland, largely due to the crop finishing and, latterly, due to the Brisbane market attracting the fruit. Chief supplies, however, came from the central north coast of N.S.W., which is now at its peak of production. Glasshouse growers are experiencing an extended season, due to availability of water, but local outdoor fruit has been very scarce, due to prevailing weather conditions. Late in October Western Australia was forwarding but finished, and South Australian fruit appeared on the market about the middle of November.

Very little variation has occurred in the prices of the fruit, values being consistently satisfactory, the shortage in vegetables diverting the public attention on to the Tomato for salad purposes. Prices on one Saturday morning went to 24/- per half bushel case and they frequently have been to 18/- for the best fruit. Present values are as follows:—N.S.W. local—Green 8/- to 12/-, colored 12/- to 14/- per half bushel. Central

## N.S.W. Citrus Growers' Defence Association

A general meeting of the New South Wales Citrus Growers' Defence Association was held at Windsor, N.S.W., on November 14.

There were present Mr. W. J. Black (Mangrove Mountain) in the chair; Messrs. G. Arnott, A. W. Best (Mangrove Mountain); J. Turnbull, W. J. T. Tuckerman (Hawkesbury); A. Castle, J. C. Butterworth, F. A. Stubbs, E. Mitchell (Ebenezer); F. Robson, H. C. Yarnall, A. E. Priston (Ourimbah); E. Gale, V. S. Fagan, A. Maher, E. P. Fuller, R. Hill, H. Fagan, G. Maher, J. Black (Lisarow); H. W. Lambert (Moorland); R. Roughley, A. L. Rohan, G. W. O'Connor (Middle Dural); R. C. Best (Maroota); H. Walker, W. Schwebel, J. Neich, Jnr. (Glenorie); A. Ghersi (Wamberal); A. G. Waddell, A. H. Bennett (Arcadia); T. M. Mitchell (Cattai); J. M. Hession, W. Wiese, H. Sanders (Oakville); A. Buckland (Blaxlands Ridge); R. W. Younger, C. Kaiser (Sackville North); W. R. Holcombe (Narara); J. H. Gordon (Leeton); Goode (Wilberforce); H. Gordon Bennett (General Secretary).

The President welcomed Mr. H. W. Lambert (Moorland), and Mr. J. Gordon (Griffith).

**Office Bearers:** The following office bearers were elected:—President, Mr. W. J. Black; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. R. Hill and A. Buckland Hon. Secretary, F. Bryant; Hon. Treasurer, V. S. Fagan; Executive Committee, Messrs. G. Maher, A. C. Waddell, J. Gordon, E. P. Fuller, R. C. Best, A. Ghersi.

(Note: The other members of the Executive Committee who will stand for election at the next general meeting are Messrs. E. N. Birks, R. Roughley, W. Schwebel, W. E. Smith, and H. C. Yarnall.

**Citrus Advisory Council:** Letter received from the Department of Commerce which stated, inter alia: "In view of the opposition that has been expressed by your Association to the formation of an Advisory Council, the Minister will be glad to learn whether, in the event of your securing representation on the Council, you would be prepared to work for the benefit of the organisation and to co-operate in carrying out its objects."

It was decided to reply, stating that as the objects of the Citrus Advisory Council had not yet been defined, the C.D.A. was unable to commit itself by stating that its representatives on the Council would support its objects, but representatives would be instructed to work for the benefit of the organisation provided the organisation worked for the benefit of the growers.

**Orchard Tax:** Several speakers disagreed with the views expressed by Mr. C. G. Savage at the Adelaide

North Coast—Green 8/- to 12/-, colored 12/- to 17/- per half bushel. Glasshouse, 10/- to 15/- per half bushel case. South Australia—12/- to 16/- per half bushel, Repacked—12/- to 14/- per half bushel. Inferior in all types lower, super quality higher.

Fruitgrowers' Conference, regarding the Orchard Tax.

**Federal Referendum:** It was decided that branches of the C.D.A. be asked to work in the direction of cultivating a public attitude against the proposed alteration to Section 92 of the Commonwealth Constitution.

### Annual Report.

The Secretary's annual report of the year 1935-36, which was adopted, stated that the Association was vigorously urging the Government to hold a referendum of growers on the rescission of the Orchard Tax. There was ample evidence to prove that the Minister for Agriculture, when the tax was introduced, promised that the growers would be given a vote on this subject. The Government had replied that they had no record of this promise. If the Government had any doubt on the matter, an Enquiry Committee would soon verify that the promise was made. Opposition was expressed to the statutory authority desired in the new Constitution of the Fruitgrowers' Federation.

A continuance of the New Zealand Citrus Embargo was deplored; efforts were being continued to remove the embargo. The importance of the citrus industry was seen in that of the 52,516 acres under citrus in Australia, 31,825 acres were in New South Wales.

Particulars were given in the report of the efforts to secure a negative vote on the alteration of Section 92 of the Commonwealth. The demand for reduction in the working hours to 40 hours per week was being resisted. The report stated that membership was increasing and a policy of a vigilance was being continued.

## Griffith Fruitgrowers' Co-op.

### Successful Year's Work.

THE Griffith Fruitgrowers' Co-operative Society has had another successful year. The report was presented by the chairman of directors, Mr. J. E. Ward, and adopted. Extracts are as follow:—

The balance sheet shows that trading for the second year increased by more than five hundred per cent. over the first year. After allocations to reserve fund and taxation reserve, a rebate is recommended to shareholders of 5d. in the £1 on all purchases and a dividend of 8 per cent. on paid-up capital.

An alliance has been arranged with the original Co-operative Society of Griffith. It is expected that considerable mutual benefits will accrue to both societies.

### Export of Apples.

"Last season the Society sent its first shipments of Apples to London. Considering the general low average our returns were satisfactory. After all expenses were paid, including growers' obligations and levies to the Society, a grower received for every case of Apples delivered to the Society cash payment of nine shillings and one penny per case.

The report concludes with definite disapproval of the sending of Area Oranges to Sydney in bags.

Messrs. W. Couch, L. Savage and J. E. Ward were re-elected directors.

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# TASMANIA

## Monthly Orchard Notes

A summary of information received by the Chief Horticulturist from the District Orchard Inspectors, together with other information relevant to fruit culture, follows:-

### Weather and Blossoming.

Conditions were again rather colder than normal, and a number of frosts of varying intensity were reported from inland districts; these, however, did not appear to do any serious damage to fruit trees. Rainfall in the main fruit districts was about average, excepting in the Eastern and South Eastern areas, where precipitation was well below average. In spite of this, Apricots are well up to size for the time of year, and in addition

are healthy, and, so far, free from any signs of brown rot, which was so prevalent last year. The following figures obtained from the Meteorological Bureau indicate the rainfall registered in the several centres—Hobart 165, as compared with the average of 234; Franklin 434, as compared with 366; Launceston 317, as compared with 271, and Cambridge 111, as compared with 226.

Apples of almost all varieties, though later than last year, blossomed very heavily, and so far as can be ascertained at the present time, have set freely.

Pears also promise well, though reports of droppings have been received;

this may be expected where the blossom was particularly heavy and the rainfall below average. Good weather prevailed throughout the blossoming period.

### Spraying and Pest Control.

No prolonged periods of unsettled weather have delayed spraying operations up to the present time, and many growers succeeded in applying a "green tip," "green cluster," and "pink" spray, "calyx" spraying being now well in hand. With such concentrated programmes combined with mainly fine weather, it is not surprising that little spot has been seen up to the present time.

On the other hand, "canary fly" and, to a lesser extent, "red spider," are more in evidence than last year. The inclusion of 1 pint of nicotine sulphate with the calyx arsenate of lead spray (or arsenate of lead and lime sulphur), and again with the second arsenate three or four weeks later should serve to keep both pests well under control provided the under sides of the leaves receive proper attention.

Following the recent warm weather, codlin moth has been seen on the wing, and caught in lures in several localities; this will show the necessity of immediate arsenate application if these have not yet already been applied.

After the Calyx Spray, or from late November-December onwards, spray treatments must be treated with caution if fruit and foliage injury are to be avoided. Periods of wet, warm weather are certain, however, to encourage black spot, and as other pests also require attention at this time, a suitable Summer spray is required. The following is a reasonably safe combination spray which can, of course, be modified to suit certain conditions:—

Lime sulphur,  $\frac{1}{2}$  gallon, arsenate of lead, 3 lbs (powder); hydrated lime, 3 lbs.; colloidal sulphur, 3 lbs.; spreader, 1 lb.; water, 100 gallons.

The recommended method of mixing this spray is to almost fill the tank with water, and add the requisite quantities of spreader and lime sulphur in that order. Next, take the arsenate of lead powder and mix with hydrated lime in the dry state, make the whole into a cream with water, and pour into the tank. Finally make the colloidal sulphur into a thin cream with water, and add to the mixture already in the tank, agitating throughout.

### Reworking.

This has been continued on an extensive scale since the last orchard notes were published, and most of the work is now complete. Where trees have been stripped and either sufficient scions have not been available to complete the job on time and spraying have interfered, these can be left and the shoots produced thinned and finally budded in February.

### Neglected Areas.

About 25 acres of neglected and unprofitable orchard were eliminated during the month, but it is during the next three months that such may act as breeding grounds for the various pests, and are therefore particularly objectionable to the commercial orchardist. For this reason attention of the Inspectors will be concentrated on these areas, and where proper pest control methods are not applied, summary action will be taken. Any orchardists who know of such areas in their district are requested to communicate direct with the Department as this will considerably facilitate and expedite the work of Inspectors.

### Stone Fruits.

As mentioned previously, Apricots are very variable, some heavy settings have been seen on the younger plantations, but generally the crop will be light to medium. Plums, Cherries, and Peaches have set well on the whole, and should give good crops under normal growing conditions.

### Berry Fruits.

Green Gooseberries for culinary purposes are picking very well this year, and later varieties are cropping heavily. Black Currants, Red Currants and Raspberries, though more backward than usual, promise reasonable crops. Strawberries are disappointing so far, blossom tresses are numerous, but the sparseness of leaf in many areas does not augur well for the development of the berries. A light dressing of sulphate of ammonia should be applied between the rows on such areas, or nitrate of soda if the land is reasonably level and at colder altitudes.

It is during this month that the Strawberry weevil emerges from the pupae and adult beetles may be traced by circular areas eaten from the leaves. As they are night feeders they may be found during the day under clods and dead leaves in the vicinity of the plants. Success was obtained last year at the Experimental Plot by baiting with a mixture of 1 lb. bran, 1 pint molasses, 4 ozs. calcium arsenate, and 3 pints of water. The bran and calcium arsenate are mixed and the mixture of molasses and water added after thorough stirring and mixing is essential. The mixture should be applied sparingly round the plants, excess will cause injury. Many other garden and field pests may also be killed by this bait, but it must be covered where birds or poultry are around, and kept away from stock or children as it is sweet with a pleasant odour.

### Packing Classes.

These culminated for the season in the Schools Packing Competition at the Hobart Show, when 30 schools competed for the Calvert Shield. A very high standard was maintained, and those growers who have made a study of packing were unanimous in their praise; indeed, many admitted that they could not do as well themselves. It is realised, however, that there is still much room for improvement, and with the increased number of entries promised, and a longer season of instruction, this should be accomplished. The interest of orchardists is already apparent from the promises of fruit and general assistance received. The winning schools and individual pupils are to be congratulated on their packs, and it is hoped that competition will be such that a whole section of a pavilion may be necessary to stage next year's exhibits at the Hobart Show.

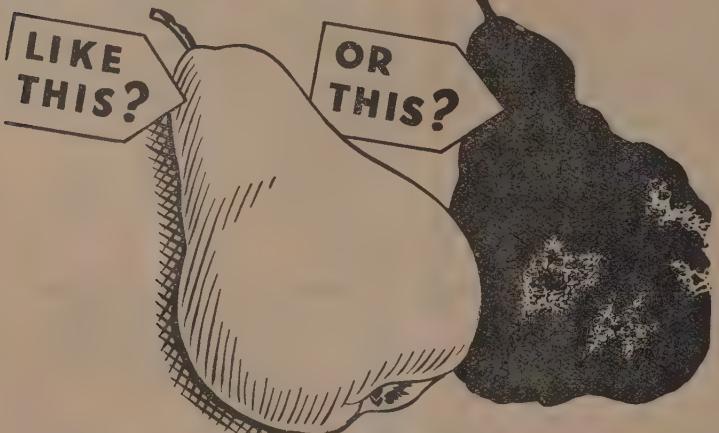
Hobart, 13/11/36.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

An interesting review of the 1936 Australian Apple season in U.K. is to hand per medium of Major H. Dakin, from Messrs. Geo. Monro Ltd., Covent Garden Market, London. Particulars are given of the heavy increase of Apple supplies from various countries which depressed the markets.

Messrs. F. W. Moore and Co. Ltd., London, have sent their usual comprehensive report giving valued details, experiences and reflections of the 1936 Australian and N.Z. fruit season in U.K. and Continent in 1936. The report will be published in the "Fruit World Annual."

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London is reached by express freight trains in three hours from Southampton. That means that all fruit unloaded in Southampton to-day, will be at Covent Garden, Spitalfields or Borough Market for the early morning market to-morrow, which means days saved as against fruit discharged by ships calling at Continental and other outports first.

The slight additional cost in reaching London markets is altogether outweighed by the tremendous advantages of days saved.

Deterioration is avoided by special arrangements for sorting to mark and quick refrigerated trains direct to London. Southampton cold stores available for storage of produce for local consumption or Midlands deliveries. Pears can be discharged from ship to cold store in less than 5 minutes, again obviating chance of deterioration.

Before the next exporting season, give serious consideration to these advantages, and when arranging space allotments for London Markets, ask for Southampton Discharge.

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# American Pacific Coast Apple Industry



**Mr. P. H. Thomas (Tasmania) Impressed with Quality, Packing, Marketing and Advertising Methods**

Mr. Percy H. Thomas, Chief Horticulturist, Tasmanian Department of Agriculture, has just returned from a visit to the fruit districts of the Pacific coast of U.S.A. and Canada. After noting the difference in cultural methods (North West U.S.A. Apples being grown under irrigation) he states he was impressed with the organised efforts that are everywhere apparent, in meeting the existing difficulties, some of which include rising cost of production, competition with other fruits, and barrelled Apples from Eastern U.S.A.. North-west growers can only compete by rigidly adopting a high standard of quality, grading, and presentation. Mr. Thomas deals with such subjects as varieties (noting the public tendency towards redder strains of popular varieties), irrigation, cultivation, manuring and pruning.

With regard to pest control, by far the most serious pest N.W. American growers have to contend with is the Codlin Moth. Arsenical spraying is still the accepted method, but earnest scientific efforts are being made to evolve new sprays. Because of heavy arsenical residue, all Apples have to be washed, and this presenting certain difficulties in keeping the fruit, because of the removal of the wax coating. A method is being tried to add a wax coating. All Apples are packed on the count system. The majority of the packing houses he visited were voluntarily packing above the required standard, and growers and all concerned with the industry realise there is no place on the market for inferior or badly packed fruit.

**Packing.**—With regard to packing, Mr. Thomas reports that the system adopted of placing the fruits in the cases is known as the straight pack, and is the same as that used by the progressive Tasmanian packing houses except that generally a higher and heavier pack is turned out. When completed, the peak or "crown" Apples are 2½ to 3 in. above the top of the case, and the fruit at the sides and ends little more than half an inch above case level.

Although there exists a general opinion that this "crown" is obtained by selecting slightly smaller Apples for the end position in the cases, this is not correct. It is true that packers may use any smaller Apples that may be in the bins for these positions. The main principle, however, is a constant firm pressure on the side as well as the end Apples as each is placed in position. This is not applied to the central Apples, and results in a "crown" being gradually built throughout the pack.

The three-piece top is sometimes made of spruce or hemlock cut in sheets as for plywood. By adopting this pattern the lid is more conveniently affixed to the "crown" type of pack now in general favor.

The Departmental officers do not favor the extreme bulge but a compact which gives a moderate bulge of approximately 2½ in. in the aggregate.

**Cold Storage.**—Without the cold storage facilities which are provided

in all the principal districts, marketing on the present system would be extremely difficult if not impossible. As soon as the different varieties approach maturity and the requisite color has developed, the crops are picked and forwarded to the packing house. The fruit is then washed, packed, wrapped in oiled papers and placed in cold storage.

**Apple By-Product.**—Apples are processed into the different by-products by a number of commercial firms that have established plants in different districts, the principal being evaporated Apples, vinegar and cider.

Over 80 per cent. of the vinegar used throughout the W. States is manufactured from Apples. It is pleasing to taste and used for domestic and processing purposes. Mr. Thomas states that at some of the vinegar factories he visited the pomace left after juice extraction was being dried in a large rotary cylinder and converted into stock food.

**Advertising.**—Notwithstanding that individual Apple packing Associations have carried out a fair amount of advertising, the Apple rather lags behind other fruit in this respect, and statistics show a decided decline in the consumption per capita during recent years.

There is a general opinion the time is opportune for a more organised and sustained effort. With this object in view, an agreement has been reached by the principal packing Associations to a joint advertising scheme throughout U.S.A. This will eliminate the present duplication and permit a scheme to be adopted which will bring the principle varieties prominently before the public in their respective seasons.

## Summary.

Mr. Thomas concludes as follows:

From my observations I would suggest that a number of improvements might be effected in selecting, grading and packing Tasmanian Apples for market.

1. A still further reduction of varieties with the ultimate object of limiting production to 12 or 15 kinds.
2. Establishment of affiliated co-operative units in each district with central packing houses in which all fruit would be packed and presented under a common label or trade mark.
3. The adoption of the Standard Apple Case, together with a guarantee of a minimum fruit weight of 40 lbs. for the contents.
4. Registration of packers.
5. Packing in the standard case to be carried out on the "crown" system and designated by the recognised number to be inserted in each case.
6. An amendment to the regulations regarding packing to permit a 10 per cent. variation in the contents of the case of the next counts over or under that stated on the label.
7. More effective supervision over the sorting that takes place before the fruit goes over the grader.

8. Inspection certificates detailing the results of examinations to be made available at a small fee of 6d. per 100 cases.
9. An economic survey of the Apple industry to ascertain the prospects of manufacturing and profitably disposing of by-products from cull Apples with particular attention to cider, fresh Apple juice, and vinegar.

## TASMANIAN STATE FRUIT BOARD.

**Australian Apple Advertising Campaign Approved.**

**A** MEETING of the Tasmanian State Fruit Board was held at Hobart on November 12 and 13, Mr. C. O. Smith presiding. There were also present Messrs. W. H. Calvert, M.L.C., J. H. Astell, J. R. Abel, D. E. Ryan, R. H. Thompson, L. S. Taylor, B. Clark, E. Morris, and the Secretary, A. J. Honey.

The decisions of the recent Adelaide Conference of the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council were considered in detail.

## Apple Advertising Campaign.

Mr. Astell, in moving that the Board endorse the proposals for an excise on all Apples and Pears sold in the Commonwealth, to raise funds for an advertising campaign, said that the increased consumption which would follow would be of material benefit to the industry. No grower could afford to refrain from contributing to the advertising scheme.

Mr. Calvert seconded. The resolution was supported by Mr. Taylor and Mr. Ryan.

Messrs. Thompson and Abel, while not opposing the proposal, stressed the necessity for supplying interstate markets with good quality fruit.

The motion was carried.

## Pear Export.

A resolution was carried recommending that Blach Achan, Giblin's Seedling, Duchess de Angouleme, B. Britton and B. Easter be not prohibited from being exported; further, that B. de Cap. be permitted to be exported for 1937 only.

## 9-in. Dump Case.

At the instance of Mr. Ryan, the Council's proposals for a variation of internal width of between 8 2-3 in. and 9 in. was approved. The need for dump cases to be packed to contain full weight was urged by Messrs. Thompson, Astell and Norris, and it was resolved to recommend to growers using the dump pack the use of cases having an internal width of 9 in.

## Apple Export Quota.

In response to a telegram from Mr. J. B. Mills, President, Apple and Pear Export Council, regarding representation at Wellington to discuss quotas with the N.Z. Fruit Export Control Board, Mr. Taylor was appointed as the Board's representative.

It was decided to confer with the Shipping Agents Committee regarding representation on the Australian Overseas Transport Association, and the Exporters' Overseas Transport Committee.

## Modern Geography.

Teacher: "Now, Dorothy, can you tell me where the Humber is?"

Dorothy: "Please, Miss, it was in the garage when I left this morning."

## SHOWS TO COME.

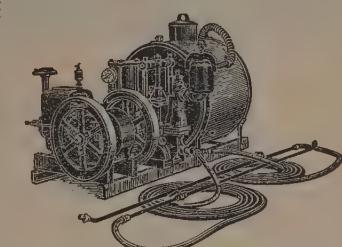
Somerville (Vic.): March 24, 1937.

**SUNSHINE and Massey Harris**

**Orchard Equipment**

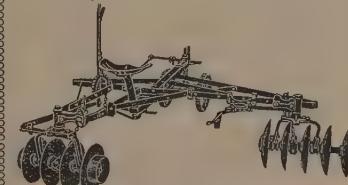
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**Sunreach 5-Disc Cultivator**



A time-and-labour-saving cultivator in orchards, vineyards, etc., which enables the user to cultivate under branches, close up to the trunks, thereby reducing hand cultivation and weeding to the minimum. The easily-operated four-coulter control is set well to the rear of the cultivating discs—giving the greatest control—holds discs to their work, guides at will close to and around the trunks, adjustable for till where land is banked up. Each end-coulter is equipped to prevent sinking in soft ground. The five 16-inch discs are six inches apart, can be quickly reversed for in-throw or out-throw, and are adjustable for breast cut by a lever in horizontal position to be clear of branches, etc. Obtainable with extension frame and extended bridle for orchards, or without extensions for vineyards. A fruit shield over the discs can be supplied. Ask for the SUNREACH FOLDER for full details.

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Ask the local agent, or write for catalogue—free on request.

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**Sunshine Harvester Works SUNSHINE, W. 20**

# New Zealand News and Notes

**DISASTROUS FROST IN HAWKES BAY WILL REDUCE N.Z. APPLE CROPS — LOSSES ON EXPORT AND GOVERNMENT GUARANTEES.**

Citrus Embargo Against Australia Regretted by the N.Z. Public.  
(By Our Correspondent.)

THE COMMITTEE which has been taking evidence regarding local markets completed part of the work in the middle of October, and is now in the course of preparing its report. In the meantime, Hawke's Bay has been visited with a severe frost and the probable nett result is that for 1937 fruit prices will be fairly satisfactory for those growers who have fruit available, and this applies to all districts in New Zealand other than Hawke's Bay. Therefore, irrespective of what the Commission may report or suggest should be done, local prices for even average quality fruit are likely to be quite remunerative to the grower.

In 1938 the situation may be different, no one can tell, so that there is ample time for any marketing plan to be fully prepared ready to be put into operation if the necessity should arise. We expressed the opinion in our last notes that it is one thing to develop a scheme and another thing to put it into practice, and it only takes a major disaster like the Hawke's Bay frost to upset the most carefully drafted scheme. Nature has a remarkable way of adjusting both under-supply and over-supply. Perhaps this is the outstanding reason why planned production is never the entire success which its suppliers expect.

#### Crops.

As reported in our last notes, the frost damage in Hawke's Bay has been particularly severe, and even where it seemed as if a reasonable crop was left on some orchards, the fruit has subsequently dropped.

Already the wholesale trade seem to have realised the possible shortage of supplies in the North Island, and are operating forward, and it is re-

ported are buying comparatively heavy quantities in Nelson.

The main demand will be for the mid-season and late varieties suitable for cool storage. Delicious, Sturmer and Statesman will probably form the bulk of the purchases.

Pears are likely to be in very short supply in the North Island, and they will be attracted from the export trade to local consumption. The price locally will depend on the quantity so diverted.

Apple crops in other districts are reported as good. Delicious and Dunns are a little patchy in Nelson, but other varieties are mainly heavy.

There has been a fairly heavy natural thinning in Otago, but despite this the district will carry a good crop, providing the weather remains propitious.

The Auckland district will have its annual problem—What to do with Delicious, which are the main crop in that area. This variety, grown in the Auckland province, suffer extensively from what is known as Mouldy or Brown Core. Export has been more or less barred for the past two seasons, and now there are complaints from the local markets. The Government, per medium of the Plant Research Station, are to make investigation, but the trouble seems to be physiological, and the remedy seems to be working over.

#### Meetings.

Export marketing will be well discussed at meetings of growers to be held throughout New Zealand during November, at which probably both Mr. Turner and Mr. Paynter (New Zealand's representatives at the Empire Fruit Council) will be present.

Mr. Turner, the London manager of the New Zealand Fruit Board, is making one of his periodical visits to New Zealand, and Mr. Paynter sailed from New Zealand early in the year on a semi-official visit to the Old Country. Mr. Turner will undoubtedly have some interesting information to pass on to growers on the problems that have been faced during the past marketing season, and it is to be hoped he can give an optimistic view for 1937. These meetings give the grower the opportunity of learning, first-hand, answers to the many questions which arise in the course of an export season.

#### Government Guarantee.

This matter received a few hours' ventilation in Parliament in the dying hours of the Session. Mr. Holyoake, Reform Member for Motueka, moved a resolution to which Members of the Crown seemed to take strong objection, and which some were inclined to classify as a political stunt. Nevertheless, the ensuing discussion proved that Ministers had some knowledge of the problems confronting fruitgrowers and judging from the remarks made by the Prime Minister, the Government are prepared to help.

It is expected that

A Guarantee of 10/- c.i.f., New Zealand currency overseas markets will be the result of the efforts which have been made by growers' organisations during the past few months. Undoubtedly the growers' costs under the new legislation are going to increase.

However, a guarantee of 10/- will at least help to meet these increased costs and will give the grower some encouragement to carry on. Unfortunately an overall guarantee of a flat rate does not give the encouragement to the grower with poor varieties to work over to something else and for the grower already producing the good varieties the guarantee is of little assistance. It is a pity something cannot be devised which will give the necessary encouragement for the average grower to keep up to date on market requirements.

No final decision has yet been made in regard to 1936. The deficit on a 9/- guarantee would amount to somewhere between £40/50,000, and as a 9/- guarantee gives only a few pence per case for the fruit after paying costs, it will be readily appreciated that as far as the 1936 export is concerned the New Zealand grower has hardly held his own. There is always a tag to Government assistance, and the one which is likely to be attached to the 1937 fruit guarantee is that all first-class orchard workers in permanent employment will receive somewhere round about £4 per week, and that female temporary hands will get 1/3 to 1/6 per hour. These are high wages in a primary industry, and if they have to be paid, the producer must expect to receive assistance. From the 1937 guarantee exporters will be expected to contribute on a case basis to provide a fund of £10,000.

#### Citrus Embargo.

We have nothing further to report, other than an obvious dissatisfaction among the public of New Zealand, not only at the price of Oranges, but on the quality. The South Australian Valencias being offered at the present time cannot possibly be Australia's best. With the improved financial conditions of the Dominion there is an enormous market for good citrus fruit at really payable prices to the producer.

## RIDLEY & HOULDING

### Covent Garden Market, LONDON

Specialists in Australian Fruit.  
Solicit consignments of Apples, Pears,  
Etc.

Our record of over 30 years' standing in the handling of Australian fruit, with satisfactory results, is a recommendation for growers to ship their fruit to our house.

#### REPRESENTATIVES—

International Fruit & Mercantile Company Ltd., Melb., Vic., Australia;  
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N.S.W.; and A. J. Walshe & Co.,  
Hobart, Tasmania.

# Fruit Trees Fruit Trees Fruit Trees

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Orders reserved.

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Orchards & Nurseries 208 Acres.  
Private Cool Stores, 17,500  
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# ARE YOU

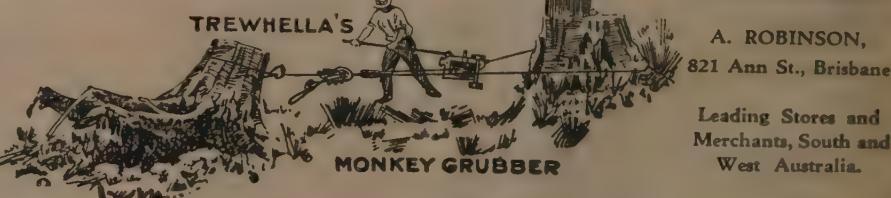
# GRUBBING?

Previous experience had convinced me that to be really efficient a grubbing machine should have ample power and ropes that will meet the heavy demands required of them. I found that shovel and axe work is very costly either by itself or in conjunction with a machine. The machine that offered these features, with a host of others, was THE "MONKEY" GRUBBER.

It gave me the power of 260 pairs of hands in a simple and compact form; the lever is short, so that I am able to stand firm-footed and get the full stroke. There are two speeds in the machine, as well as an automatic release that allows me to let off a strain, or as the machine will work in any position, it comes in for all jobs that would require a chain block. It is taken to the job on a pair of wheels like a barn truck, and is rigged for work in a few minutes. The ropes are in lengths that I find easy to handle, and each one is fitted with hook and loop couplings, so simple and absolutely IT for effectiveness. The makers have included a sturdy snatch block with a novel method of securing to the ropes, and also a fine type of firm gripping rope shortener. The latter makes it very easy to accommodate the lengths of rope to the tree or stump being pulled, and is quickly released from the rope. The combination of so many time and labor saving features makes the "Monkey" Grubber a superior grubbing outfit.

REMEMBER FOR YOUR GRUBBING THERE'S ONLY

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# CITRUS NEWS & NOTES

## Citrus Round the World

### Spain.

Spain is in the news these days, and although the Spanish Orange is off the market for the time being, "Oranges all the year round" remains the proud boast of the Spaniards. During certain months of the year, Spain still dominates the citrus markets of Europe, but little is heard of any special or scientific efforts being made to meet the competition from other countries that has arisen of late years, says "Fruit and Vegetable Trades Journal" (Eng.).

One still thinks of the Spanish Orange as the lineal descendant of the Orange which monopolised the European markets in former days, and wonders whether the product is of such pronounced quality that it can continue to compete in this respect with the improved varieties that competing countries have concentrated on and none or few of which can claim to be of Spanish origin.

It appears, however, from a broadcast speech of Don Manuel Egana, Director of Agriculture in Spain, that the Spanish authorities are quite alive to any potential threats to their supremacy and are taking steps to meet it, not only by improvement in the way of quality, but by cultivating varieties that will give them a practically all the year round succession of citrus fruit.

### England.

"Drink more Fruit" is a slogan that will be used in England following the successful experiments undertaken by the Horticultural Research Station, Bristol, in which ungradeable and over-ripe fruit has been made into commercial fruit products. Whilst cider was formerly the only large-sale fruit drink obtainable, now juices, squashes, syrups, wines, liqueurs and even milk shakes with fruit flavors are easily obtainable.

Not only has a big industry been created, but thousands of pounds are being saved annually by the utilisation of reject fruit for drinks. It is estimated that last Summer 100,000 gallons of pure fruit drinks were consumed. Berry fruits, over-ripe, constitute a large contribution to the requirements.

### Yugoslavia.

Between 150,000 and 200,000 tons of fresh fruit and 40,000 to 50,000 tons of Prunes were exported from Yugoslavia last season, a great increase on previous years. There are reported to be 40 million Plum trees in the country, and it is claimed to be the largest Plum producer in the world. Plum brandy is one of the largest products treated.

### Irish Free State.

In the first three months of 1936, Irish Free State imported 9 million lbs. of Oranges, and in the third quar-

ter of the year, 10 million lbs. Approximately 20 per cent. of the earlier quantity came from Spain.

### French Morocco.

France is developing citrus culture in her African possessions, hoping to become independent of foreign imports. Algeria has 22,000 acres under cultivation, Morocco has 10,000 acres, and Tunisia 1,750 acres. To supply present French requirements, another 50,000 acres will be needed. Morocco Orange trees begin at 4 years, produce 200 to 300 Oranges in their sixth year, and reach 600 in their tenth year.

### Brazil.

60,000 cases of Oranges were destroyed last year as unfit for export from Brazil, yet she exported over one million cases, 75 per cent. of which went to Great Britain. The Bahia represents the greatest production, but the Pera is increasing. Brazil Oranges are exported in 70 lb. boxes. Netherlands, France, Belgium and Sweden are the next best export markets from this country.

### Italy.

The Summer crop of Lemons in Italy was 30 per cent. lower than in 1935. Owing to climatic conditions, a good proportion of the crop ran to large sizes.

### South Africa.

In 1935 the S.A. Co-operative Citrus Exchange, which handles 75 per cent. of that country's crop, had an export season that was second largest on record. S.A. exported nearly 2½ million cases, most of which went to Great Britain, with small shipments to Sweden, France, and the Netherlands.

### DEATH VALLEY WALKER.

Drinks Only Orange Juice.

As illustrating the glamour of notoriety and the ends to which American business houses go for publicity, Willis Ocker, of California, has made several walking tours through the dreaded Death Valley, the lowest and hottest spot in America, where the sun temperature hovers around 160 degrees F. Others have essayed walks into Death Valley with fatal results, but Ocker seems to be impervious to the extreme heat, possibly because he subsists entirely upon Orange juice supplied by a well-known firm.

Last May, Ocker challenged any living creature, man or beast, to a 1,300 mile jaunt, including Death Valley in the itinerary, but no one accepted the challenge, and he completed the journey alone. He believes that the Orange tree is the nearest thing to the fountain of youth, and his unusual tests seem to bear out this theory. In any case, a 1,300 mile hike for either pleasure or profit is a feat that few could emulate.

### WAR IN SPAIN.

#### Favors American Citrus Exports.

The civil war in Spain, by stopping the transport of goods in France, has increased the demand for Oranges and Lemons from America, reports a New York exchange. French importers found their supplies getting low, with no guarantee in sight that the trouble in Spain would terminate before commerce in primary products was definitely stopped, and they began to place large orders for American citrus fruits for immediate delivery. The fruit is being rushed across by Trans-Atlantic liners every week.

**HARDIE**  
HAND MADE  
**SPRAY HOSE**  
BURST PROOF  
ALL RED  
Every Inch Australian  
OBtainable at All Stores  
Made by the Hardie Rubber Coy Ltd.  
Australia

### OX-BLOOD FOR ORANGES.

#### Ancient Trees Pampered.

The ancient Chateau at Versailles built by Louis XIV. employs 20 full-time gardeners to look after 1,200 Orange trees of old tradition and current interest. Each tree is numbered, and its record kept as carefully as that of a hospital patient. Each tree is contained in a box 4 feet square, one side of which is removable so that experts can examine the roots periodically and give them any treatment necessary to prolong the life of the already ancient trees.

Special compost loam provides the soil and watering is delicately done, so that the right moisture is given. Three times a year a special mixture of ox-blood and water is given to the roots. During the cold weather the trees are transferred into hot-houses, in fact, they are as carefully nurtured as are delicate children. A special insecticide, containing nicotine, is made for the trees. Under such careful treatment it is expected that the trees will continue to be an attraction at the Chateau for a long time.

### CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING.

£43,000,000 in Sales.

Farmers' co-operative fruit and vegetable associations in U.S.A. sold over £43,000,000 worth of products last year, according to the Farm Credit Administration. This represents 6 per cent. increase over the earlier year.

1,063 co-operative associations served 166,000 farmers and growers of fruit and vegetables, or 8,000 more than the previous year. Citrus fruits accounted for the largest part of the business. Pacific Co-operatives were responsible for 62 per cent. of total sales, California sales alone contributing over £26,000,000, whilst Florida came next with over £3,000,000.

## The Curing of Lemons

### Method Explained

Now that soil moisture is sufficient, says the "N.S.W. Agricultural and Pastoral Notes," Lemons will rapidly increase in size. Rather than market Lemons of very large size, fresh fruit from suitable trees should be carefully clipped and stored for a period.

Various methods of treating and storing Lemons with a view to keeping them for several months have been tried, states a departmental leaflet. Storing carefully clipped fruit, vase-lined and wrapped in paper of one kind or another, in sand or sawdust, and many other methods have not shown any to be superior to placing carefully handled fruit in boxes and simply storing away in a cool place from which light (which darkens the color of the rind) and wind (the effect of

which is to harden the rind) are excluded. The more equable the temperature the better are likely to be the results, but a range of 40 to 65 deg. (or even higher for short periods) appears to be satisfactory. During the Spring and Summer months a high humidity (if possible, 80 to 90 per cent.) is desirable in order to minimise shrinkage. If only a few boxes are being stored, each box may be lined with paper.

Lemons harvested and stored since early Winter will now be nearing the end of the storage period. If stored much longer great losses are likely before the fruit is consumed. Cured Lemons should be neatly wrapped and packed, and progressively marketed as the maximum storage periods are reached.

*Gerrard Sales  
and Service*



**GERRARD**  
*The Tie That Binds*

MELBOURNE SYDNEY BRISBANE TOWNSVILLE PERTH ADELAIDE HOBART

Credo — We believe in the Gerrard system and in the goods we sell; the sound value of the continuous service that follows every sale. We believe this business grows each year because of the sound, honest basis on which it builds; and because of the recognition of true economy by users throughout Australia.

# PORT of LONDON

## The World's Best Fruit Market

**Sales can always be depended on for best quality fruit at highest prices.**

Besides its own vast population, LONDON supplies the seaside resorts. Tourists make their headquarters in LONDON and want the best fruit.

LONDON has always been the centre of the Australian and New Zealand fruit trade, and although many efforts have been made to divert it to other ports, the presence of its huge local market with expert distribution agencies will ensure it remaining so.

**LONDON** is an **INTERNATIONAL MARKET** where the **WORLD'S BUYERS** congregate, and where the highest prices for best produce are always obtained.

All particulars as regards charges, etc., can be obtained from:

**Capt. A. W. Pearse, Port of London Authority, 22 Loftus St., Sydney**



## THIS CROP WAS SAVED BY **PESTEND SUPERFINE** (TOBACCO DUST)

"Look fine, don't they?" said Mr. Short, waving a hand over 100,000 big, healthy Cabbages.

"Yet green, grey, and flying aphids nearly had the lot. Pestend Superfine, used in the spray duster, quickly destroyed them, however, and I expect a very successful crop..."

"Yes! You can repeat this conversation, and add, too, that Pestend spreads and adheres better, acts quicker, lasts longer, and costs less than ordinary spraying powders."

Follow the lead of expert gardeners and growers, who have proved that Pestend Superfine (especially when mixed with lime) is a sure protection against crop-destroying insects. Pestend Superfine Tobacco Dust is non-poisonous to plants, inexpensive, and easy to use. Try it out yourself!

Obtainable in 4 lb., 28 lb., and 1 cwt. bags at all produce stores, or direct from W. D. & H. O. Wills (Aust.) Ltd.

## OBITUARY

Mr. A. T. Booth, Mt. Barker, W.A.

Just as we went to press last issue, word came through of the death of Mr. Archibald Taylor Booth, Secretary of the Western Australian Fruit-growers' Association and of the Mount Barker Fruitgrowers' Co-operative Association Ltd. The passing of Mr. Booth is a distinct loss to the fruit industry, not only of W.A., but also of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Booth's untimely death was caused by an accident at a sawmill which he was visiting. Full details are not available, but apparently Mr. Booth fell, and came into contact with a circular saw.

"Archie" Booth, as he was familiarly known throughout the Australian fruit industry, was one of the most popular and appreciated men connected with Australian fruit interests. He performed valued services for the growers in his own State, and was a frequent delegate to Interstate Conferences over the past 30 years. In addition to his business and executive capacity, he had a genial personality, which instantly commended him to all who knew him.

Apart from his other activities, Mr. Booth was a member of the W.A. Fruit Shippers Committee, also a member of the Executive and country member of the W.A. Apple Sales Board. Early this year, Mr. Booth became seriously ill, but after a thorough rest he recovered, and took up his active duties again.

His death has caused a gap in the ranks of those who have pioneered the plans for the betterment of the fruit industry. Mr. Booth leaves a widow, a son, and a daughter, and our deep sympathy goes out to the bereaved family.

## PERSONAL

Messrs. J. H. Astell and J. R. Abel, members of the Tasmanian State Fruit Board, left on a visit to India in mid-November to investigate the possibilities of exporting more fruit to that country. Free passages are being provided by the British India Steam Navigation Co.

Mr. Percy H. Thomas, Chief Horticulturist, Tasmanian Department of Agriculture, has returned from his visit to the Pacific Coast of U.S.A. and Canada, where he observed fruit growing and packing operations. Mr. Thomas addressed the meeting of the Tasmanian State Fruit Board in mid-November. The Board has asked the Government to make Mr. Thomas' services available for addressing meetings of fruitgrowers throughout Tasmania, and that his report be published in pamphlet form.

Capt. W. J. Wade, representative of the Port of Manchester, recently toured the Apple districts of Tasmania interviewing shippers and orchardists. He also addressed a gathering of Apple interests at Launceston, and stressed the advantages of the Manchester market to exporters. Capt. Wade, who was accompanied by his daughter, was well received in the Apple country.

Mr. Willis J. Williams, Superintendent of the Municipal Markets, Sydney, returned on November 17 from an extended tour of Japan.

Mr. R. H. Tuffin has taken over the stand previously occupied by Macdermott and Sheedy at the Sydney Fruit Markets. The latter firm has given up the commission side of the business, but will still carry on as export fruit agents at their offices on the top floor of the markets.

# THE MARKET GROWER

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE MARKET GARDENERS AND FRUITGROWERS' SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.  
ALSO OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE KOONDROOK & BARHAM TOMATO GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

## ROCKMELONS

### Appearance and Carrying Capacity

WITH the Melon season coming along, some remarks from Mr. H. Wenholz, Director of Plant Breeding (N.S.W.), are well worth considering.

Unfortunately, said Mr. Wenholz, the Rock Melon, as a dessert fruit, has not yet attained the very prominent position in public favor here that it occupies and merits, for instance, in the United States. Doubtless the principal factors militating against its greater popularity have been the diversity and general inferior quality, of the types available on the local market.

With the advent of superior varieties in recent years, mainly introduced by the Department, a decided increase in demand has occurred, which bids fair to expand considerably. Particular types with a distinct appearance are becoming associated in the public mind with high eating quality, and are being asked for by name, or recognised by appearance. This is the case, for instance, with the variety Californian Cream, which is very popular despite its peculiar but distinctive mottled color and odd shape.

Many introductions from other sources, including those from India and Russia, have been disappointing in quality. The Rock Melon appears to be a produce of evolution under rather dry conditions, more particularly dry atmospheric conditions, and when transplanted to relatively humid ones it becomes a prey to diseases such as Powdery Mildew (*Erysiphe*) and Downy Mildew (*Pseu doperonospora*). These diseases are usually most severe on the coast, and they effectively prevent the growing in such area of late maturing varieties.

Several Powdery Mildew resistant varieties have been introduced; of these, the most promising are No. 50 and No. 50-15, bred by Dr. Jagger of the United States Department of Agriculture, but they are unfortunately inferior in quality to the best commercial types. Mr. Poggendorff, Assistant Plant Breeder at Yanco, has used these varieties as parents to impart resistance to varieties such as 101 Special, King George, and Spanish Gold — varieties possessing high quality but also susceptibility to Powdery Mildew.

Inland districts possessing a supply of water sufficient for irrigation purposes, are admirably suited for Melon culture; diseases are rarer, while high temperatures and dry atmosphere bring out the best qualities of the Rock Melon.

Varieties grown inland must, however, possess carrying capacity, to facilitate transport to market; this feature is found in a wide selection of varieties now available which also possess excellent quality, yielding power and uniformity; it is pleasing to note that some of these are replacing older, inferior varieties in local seedsmen's catalogues.

The following varieties are considered the most promising of all tested to date:—

**Rock Melons:**—(1) Salmon-fleshed: Hale's Best, 101 Special, Hearts of Gold, Pearly Pink Meat, Peerless Pearl, King George, Paul Rose, Bender's Surprise, Eden Gem. (2) Green Fleshed: Jenny Lind, Delicious.

**Casabas:**—(Late maturing, long keeping Melons): (1) Green-fleshed: Honey Dew, Spanish Gold. (2) Salmon-fleshed: Honey Dew Pink Flesh, Golden Honey Dew.

### MILDEW RESISTING MELON.

The growing of mildew resistant Cantaloups in Colorado is being enthusiastically experimented with, and satisfactory results are reported. The melon is named No. 45, and is in its third generation in the district. It is reported as keeping well for a week after ripening, and that picking can be done only twice a week, instead of daily, as with the old type. It carries well, and has a wonderful flavor.

### THE PUMPKIN BEETLE.

#### Method of Control.

**T**HE DESTRUCTIVE Pumpkin Beetle is orange and black in color, about one-tenth of an inch wide and a fifth of an inch long, has caused damage varying from slight to total loss. Occasionally, where the pest has been abundant, and dry conditions prevailing, Cherries and even Figs have been attacked.

Infestations of young Pumpkin, Melon and Squash plants may be prevented by covering the plants with wire gauze of one-tenth of an inch mesh. Finely-powdered materials, scattered over the leaves, repel the beetles. Wood ashes are inexpensive and readily available, but they do not afford thorough protection.

In comparative tests on young plants, hydrated lime and lime and tobacco dust (equal parts of lime and tobacco) proved the most effective. They are repellent and stick to the foliage. For older plants a dust made of equal parts of lead arsenate and lime is effective. Spray with 3 lb. of lead arsenate to 50 gal. of water.

**"Plane" Brand Dusts**

"Beauty" (Knapsack) Dusters  
"Superior" (Rotary) Dusters

ARE MANUFACTURED BY  
**N. N. McLEAN Pty. Ltd.**  
395 Queen Street  
MELBOURNE

## TOMATOES UNDER GLASS

### VISIT TO DONCASTER

(By Our Travelling Representative.)

IN my travels around the country I come across many items that may be of interest to our readers. Here is a report of a farm I visited on which Tomatoes are being successfully grown under glass.

Mr. R. Moffat, of Main-road, Doncaster, is a grower of Tomatoes under glass. One of the buildings at present in use is 150 x 40. This is heated by coke boiler when necessary. Before planting, the soil is thoroughly sterilised by steam, and to test this, Potatoes are buried 18 in. deep in the soil, and if properly cooked it is known that all is properly done. Cow, sheep and stable manure, well decomposed, is added for each crop in the proportion of 2:2:1, the whole well mixed with the deep digging of the soil.

The plants are placed about 6 in. apart in the rows, with room between each row for picking and cultivation. Over each row is a wire, drawn taut 7 ft. above the ground, from which a string is carried to every plant, and as the Tomato grows it is supported vertically by the

string. No side shoots are permitted to grow.

During the growth of the plants they are dusted about every two weeks with arsenic, Bordeaux or sulphur, and sometimes fumigated with cyanide as required. The soil is watered between the rows, but the leaves are never wetted, and the soil is worked by hoeing or raking. Mr. Moffat has his own strain, which was originally "Orange Prolific." Occasionally new seed is imported, and in selecting fruits for seed, great care is given. Care is taken not to open the building at night time.

Two crops are grown yearly, the first is harvested from June to August, and the second during the Summer. The proprietor intends to extend this business, having proved that by this method, wilt and other diseases to which the Tomato is liable can be controlled, as well as eliminating damage from hail and wind. Picking operations are also simplified, and regular crops assured. Mr. Moffat is experimenting with other plants under glass, which he hopes to prove to be satisfactory.

## SPOTTED WILT ON TOMATOES

ONE OF THE MOST SERIOUS diseases with which Tomato growers have to contend is spotted wilt, a virus the symptoms of whose attack are a bronzing of the young leaves in irregular spots or circles, accompanied by the almost complete cessation of growth. That this virus may attack plants other than Tomatoes is generally known, but more information is now available regarding its range of hosts, and knowledge gained on this subject was summarised by Mr. L. Ogilvie in the annual report of the Agricultural and Horticultural Research Station, Long Ashton (Eng.).

It has been established that the spotted wilt virus attacks at least 14 families of plants, a number of which are commonly grown in mixed glass-

houses, and Mr. Ogilvie, in addition to indicating the dangers of infection to Tomatoes which result from growing other plants in Tomato houses, shows how satisfactory control of the disease may be attained by the roguing of infected plants combined with routine fumigation to destroy insect vectors.

One of the plants most commonly grown in association with Tomatoes in some areas is the Calla or Arum Lily (*Richardia africana*), and it has now been definitely established that this plant is subject to infection by the virus, a fact of considerable importance in that the flowers of Richardias are a favorite breeding place of thrips, the insect that transmits the disease.

## SOYA BEANS FOR INDUSTRY

### U.S.A. Production Increasing

Ten years ago only 15 per cent. of the Soya Bean crop of U.S.A. was put to industrial uses, now Illinois alone disposes of 85 per cent. of its crop for such purposes. Soya Bean products are being used more and more extensively, and to quote two uses only, it is reported that the use

of Soya Bean oil in paint and protein in plastics is increasing at a rapid rate.

Last year there were 6,211,000 acres under crop for Soya Beans, and further uses for this valuable product are being discovered almost daily.

## AT LAST!!!

A Safe and Efficient Non-Poisonous Insecticide for Dry Dusting.

COOPER'S

## DRYMAC Standardised DERRIS DUST

KILLS CABBAGE GRUB, APHIS, THRIPS, ETC.

Simply dust it over the affected plants.  
112 lb. Bags 9d. lb.; 56 lb. Cases 10d. lb.; 7 lb. Bags 11d. lb.; 2 lb. Cartons 2/3 ea.; 1 lb. Cartons 1/3 ea. Wholesale Prices on Application.

Sole Manufacturers:

**William Cooper & Nephews (Australia) Ltd., Sydney**  
Victorian Distributor—F. R. MELLOR, 440 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.

## Nicotine as a Destroyer of Insect Pests, etc., Attacking Vegetables

(By C. French, formerly Govt. Entomologist and Govt. Biologist to the Dept. of Agriculture, Melbourne.)

IT is not as generally recognised as it should be that we have in tobacco an excellent insecticide for use against some of the most troublesome soft-bodied insects. For aphides (plant lice of vegetables, etc.) especially, it has proved very effective, and being quite harmless to plants, can often be employed when poisons are out of the question.

The following are some of the principal and most destructive insect pests of vegetables, together with suggested remedies.

### Thrips (Common).

Thrips are the worst pests that the vegetable grower has to contend with. They are difficult insects to deal with, on account of their habit of crawling into the centre of plants and sucking the juices out of the leaves, flowers and stems. This causes them to

turn a dirty brown or silvery color. They are minute insects, seldom exceeding a line in length. The eggs are extremely small, cylindrical, and round at one end, and are inserted in the leaves or tender stems. From them issue little larvae quite as active as their parents. When the insects are fully grown, their wings are long, narrow and lie flat on their back when at rest. They are surrounded with very fine hairs, giving them the appearance of tassels. The insects hibernate in the adult stage only. Thrips are very difficult to control because of their large numbers.

Thrips attack the following vegetables, viz.:—

They cause the flowers of early Tomato plants to turn brown, shrivel up and fall. They also attack the flowers of Beans, Potatoes, Peas, etc., in fact almost every kind of vegetable

flower, and thus are responsible for considerable damage. They also attack the stems and leaves of Potatoes. Dusting with Superfine Pestend (tobacco dust) is recommended.

### Potato Moth.

According to various writers, this destructive pest of the Potato crop has been known in Australia since 1854, and has spread to all States. It has caused considerable losses to vegetable growers, and is certainly the worst Potato pest in the Commonwealth. The moths are usually more plentiful after a mild warm Winter. There are two broods of moths. The first, the Winter brood, may destroy the young plants and thereby ruin the crop. The moths of the second brood deposit their eggs on the Potatoes themselves when the tubers are stored or are in the field. Sometimes when the Potato plants are fully grown, the female moth deposits her eggs on the leaves. The caterpillar of this moth, when full grown, measures about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long, and is of a faint pinkish color, with a brown head. It usually prepatates under the skin of the Potato, and is surrounded or protected by dirt, excrement, etc. Moth: The moth is

small, of a light brownish grey color, the size being—body  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch in length; front wings, which are darker than the hind ones, female about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch across when expanded, male, slightly smaller. The wings of both sexes are feathery or fringy. Dusting stored Potatoes with Superfine Pestend (tobacco dust) and lime in equal proportions, will prevent moths from depositing their eggs on them.

### The "Rutherglen Bug."

This insect, called the Rutherglen bug or Rutherglen fly, is a true plant bug, and it sometimes appears in countless numbers during the hot weather. The perfect insects measure about one and a half inches in length, the general color being greyish or light brown. It is a very active insect, and has the habit of dropping or flying to the ground, when plants on which it is resting are touched. The bug is furnished with a beak or rostrum, with which it sucks the sap from the plants and causes them to wither and die. The eggs are deposited amongst rubbish and weeds. Tomatoes, Beans, Peas, Potatoes, and other such vegetables are its favorite foods. Dust infested plants with Superfine Pestend (tobacco dust).

### The Red Spider.

This pest is well known to vegetable growers. It belongs to the mites, and is therefore, strictly speaking, not an insect. It is a variable mite, some being almost transparent, others reddish or brick-red. When the eggs hatch the young mites swarm upon the foliage and expanding flowers, and suck up the juices. The vegetables soon show the influence of their presence by the sickly yellow hue of the foliage. During hot weather, this is one of the worst pests growers of vegetables have to contend with, as they destroy French and other kinds of Beans, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Melons of various kinds and makes a kind of web underneath the leaves. The red spider is not a difficult pest to destroy, as, unlike many other insect pests, it has no wings, and spreads mainly by the use of its tiny legs. Its eggs, which are almost transparent, light red in color, remain both in the soil, and in the crevices of stalks, plants and other objects during the Winter. Tobacco sprays are very reliable. A cheap spray can be made by suspending Pestend (tobacco dust) in boiling water to the desired strength, afterwards straining same ready for use. Care should be taken that the nozzle of the spray pump is directed upwards so as to reach the underside of the leaves. This is very important as the red spiders or mites are found there in large numbers.

The Pea Mites (several kinds, often erroneously called red spider).

The mites, during the last few years have spread rapidly and are causing considerable losses to growers of vegetables. When the plants are first coming through soil, dress the field or garden with Pestend (tobacco dust) and lime in equal proportions, approximately 2 cwt. per acre. Also dust with Pestend during growing period. They are usually very abundant, simply in millions, during the months from April to November. The eggs are small, yellow in color and placed on the underside of leaves of weeds, especially "Cape Weeds." The main points by which the two species may be distinguished in the field are as follows:—The Pea mite (*penthoeleus bicolor*) body rather globular; legs bright red; general color of body black with a reddish patch on upper surface. The red-legged earth mite (*Halotyden destructrix*) body not so globular as Pea mite, entirely black without reddish patch, legs not so red as in previous species.

Cables—Monro, London

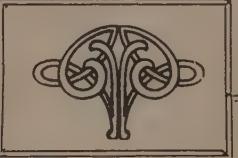
Codes—A.B.C. 5th Edition and Bentley's

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Bigger and better business is our objective.

We make advances to cover cost of freight, etc.

(Established 1862)

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Esmond Russell Pty. Ltd., 395 Collins St., Melbourne.  
W. H. Ikin & Son, Dunn Street, Hobart.  
Bell & Gerrard, No. 200 Climitere St., Launceston.  
The Westralian Farmers Ltd., Perth.

These mites attack Beet (especially Red Beet), Peas, Onion, Potato, and other crops.

#### Onion Thrips.

The well-known "silvering" of the Onion leaves is caused by these insects. They have tiny jaws or mandibles with which they rasp the tissues and lap up the liberated plant juices, and when the plants are badly attacked, they wilt and die. The damage is seldom serious in cool damp seasons, but in dry hot Summers this insect may cause heavy losses to the growers.

The Onion thrips injures a great variety of field and garden crops to which it is quite as destructive as to plants grown artificially. Besides Onion, it injuriously affects garden Leek, Parsley, Cabbage, Celery, Melon, Cauliflower, etc. Control measures. Same as for common thrips.

#### Cabbage Aphids.

(Often called "Cauliflower and Cabbage Blight.")

Cabbage aphids are very destructive to Cabbage, Cauliflower, Radish, Turnip, and other vegetables belonging to the other Cruciferae. These pests are sucking insects which feed by extracting the juices from the plant. The aphids feed at the heart of young plants just set in the field or garden. Two or three aphids on a plant at this time will seriously stunt the growth. The aphids feed on both the upper and lower surfaces of the leaves of older plants and cause them to become deformed, the heads cease to develop or the plant may be killed outright. Full grown aphids are green or green covered with a whitish powder giving them a bluish tint. To combat Cabbage aphids use Superfine Pestend with dusting gun, which enables the nozzle of the gun to be directed straight at the heart of the Cabbage, thus ensuring a 100 per cent. kill in the folds of the leaves. As a general rule, material in dust form is more effective against aphids than when applied as a liquid.

Dusting should be done during the hottest part of a calm day for most effective results. Dust underside of leaves thoroughly since aphids are usually found there. In using dust for aphids, we must remember that they are sucking insects, and to kill them we must hit each and every aphid with a dust that kills by mere contact, hence the necessity of a superfine dust.

#### The Cabbage Moth.

These moths are also known as "Diamond-back Turnip Moths," "Diamond-back Cabbage and Cabbage Web Moth."

These moths attack plants belonging to the order Cruciferae, which include Cabbage, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Kale, Turnips, Radish, etc. These insects are found all the year round. Their eggs are greenish yellow in color and are usually deposited on the upper and under surface of leaves, but generally the former. The caterpillars, when full grown, measure about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in length, pale green in color. They are exceedingly active, and on being disturbed frequently fall or drop to the ground by a silken thread spun from the mouth. The chrysalis is brown in color. The moth is grey and white. When at rest the wings are slightly turned up at the tips, when fully expanded they measure slightly more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inch from tip to tip. The caterpillar of this moth may be controlled by the use of Superfine Pestend (tobacco dust). Make first dusting as soon as damage is noticed and subsequent applications at intervals of a week to ten days, as needed.

#### Bean Aphids.

These dark-colored aphids cause much damage to Broad Beans. They usually appear in countless numbers during the cold weather. They are easily kept in check by spraying the plants with tobacco sprays to which a little soapy water is added.

#### Jassids, Leafhoppers, Canary Flies or Froghoppers.

These small greenish-yellow insects, not unlike miniature cicadas, are about the size of aphids or green fly. They are very active, and during the Summer can be seen in countless numbers on the leaves of Potato, Tomato, Pea and other vegetables. They do a considerable amount of damage. Dusting with Superfine Pestend will control this pest.

#### Woodlice, Slaters or Sow Bugs.

Woodlice, are not strictly speaking, insects, but as they cause considerable damage to vegetables they are included in this article. They are very destructive among Carrots, Turnips, Cabbage and other vegetables. Dust plants well with Pestend and lime in equal proportions.



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### RUBBER STAMPS

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# Canned Fruits Notes

#### EXPORTS OF CANNED FRUITS TO OCTOBER 31.

The following record shows the destinations of Australian canned fruits exported from January 1 to October 31, 1936. The varieties are expressed in dozens of 30 oz. tins or equivalent.

Country.	Apricots.	Peaches.	Pears.	Salad.	Pines.	Total.
U.K. . . . .	262,110	875,948	690,918	—	16,675	1,845,651
N.Z. . . . .	26,808	26,946	2,108	34	4,553	60,449
Canada . . . .	22,644	149,024	15,642	6,520	25,766	217,596
East . . . . .	6,086	13,380	10,366	1,840	96	31,768
Misc. . . . .	1,080	2,542	3,392	62	466	7,542
Total . . . . .	318,728	1,067,840	722,426	8,456	45,556	2,163,006

#### GERMANY INCREASES CANNING.

#### Four Times the Production of 1934.

Increased activity in canning operations in Germany during 1935 is stated to indicate an upward movement in economic conditions. In the figures covering all fruit and vegetable processing, which includes jams, jellies, sauces and kroaut, RM 192 millions are recorded for 1935 as compared with RM 46 millions in 1934.

The raw materials represented in the production of processed foods included 108,000 tons fresh vegetables, 91,000 tons fresh fruit, 13,000 tons reject fruit products, 9,000 tons imported fruit pulp, and 6,000 tons imported dried fruits. With other materials used, a total outlay of RM 124.2 millions was made, an increase of 39 per cent. over 1934.

Canned vegetables increased 13 per cent. Peas almost doubled the quantity of 1934, Carrots and Beans increased slightly, but Asparagus, Mushrooms and Cucumbers decreased. Fruit conserves increased 41 per cent., largely due to higher production of Plums and Apple sauce, which increased by 50 and 62 per cent. respectively.

Employment fluctuated from 16,250 on the average to 26,700 during the peak period of the industry.

#### CONSUMPTION INCREASES 50 PER CENT.

#### British Canners' Convention Reports.

ACCORDING to a report presented at the British Canners' Convention, held simultaneously with the Imperial Fruit Show at Liverpool, since the first show held in that city, the British public has become more "fruit conscious," and consumption has increased 50 per cent.

In order to further increase the popularity of canned fruits, a letter is to be sent to every doctor and nurse in Great Britain, urging them to assist in overcoming a recognised prejudice against canned foods.

This is a step in the right direction, and should result, provided that the medical profession will co-operate, in a still greater extension of the value of canned fruits and other canned foods.

#### EMERGENCY.

Instructor: "This, madam, is the hand brake—it's put on very quickly, in case of an emergency."

Lady Driver: "I see—something like a kimono."

#### CANNED ASPARAGUS.

#### "Drysdale" Tips Now Available.

"Packed where grown" is a feature of advertising employed by the Drysdale Asparagus Co. Pty. Ltd. in featuring a new canned line recently put on the market. The tips are specially selected on the company's own farm, and are cut and packed within a couple of hours, which ensures the retention of the full flavor and tenderness of the Asparagus. The contents of the cans are approximately 30 to 35 sticks in the small size, 16 to 20 in the medium size, and 8 to 10 in the mammoth size. Distribution has been undertaken by H. Williams & Sons Pty. Ltd., of Alphington, manufacturers of "Victorine" food products.

#### LEETON CANNERY OPERATIONS

#### Mr. Coombes Acting Manager.

The Board of Directors of the Leeton Canery notify that Mr. W. T. O. Coombes has been appointed acting manager. Extensive improvements now being undertaken include concrete tracks to facilitate the movement of stocks within the factory, two electric loading elevators, repairs to plant, repainting, increased floor space, and other improvements aimed at more economical management.

Plans are being well considered for the handling of the coming season's packs and increased supplies are expected.

### Producers' Co-operative Distributing Society Ltd.

Are now paying a Bonus of 10% on all Commissions charged to regular clients of the Fruit & Vegetable Section for year ending Sept., 1935

#### Send Your Consignments

#### TO US

MELBOURNE & SYDNEY.

# 10½ Million Consumers

... in ...

East Lancashire, West Yorkshire and the Midlands  
Consume 2,500 tons of Apples per Week

DISTRIBUTING CHARGES TO PLACES IN THESE AREAS AVERAGE 3d. TO 9d. PER BUSHEL LESS FROM  
**MANCHESTER**  
THAN FROM ANY OTHER PORT AND SALES SHOULD THEREFORE YIELD HIGHER NETT RETURNS.

MANCHESTER DOCKS, MARKETS AND FRUIT AUCTION ROOMS are equipped with every modern facility for efficient handling and rapid distribution. Wholesale merchants from all parts of the North and Midlands regularly obtain supplies at the local auction sales or by private treaty.

For information as to service and reliable Brokers and Distributors at Manchester apply to:—

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CAPT. W. J. WADE,  
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# BARNEY SPRINGER

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Every Attention  
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## FRUIT WIPING MACHINERY.

The appreciations which have been received regarding the Perfection Fruit Wiper have been very pleasing to the manufacturers. The Southern Pear Packing Co. Ltd., of Blackburn, Vic., have been appointed agents for the Croydon, Blackburn, Burwood, and Ringwood districts. For the Bacchus Marsh district the representative is Mr. G. H. Anderson, Bacchus Marsh Fruit Packing House. Machinery can be obtained through the foregoing, also the Victorian Pastoralists' Service Co., 271 Collins-street, Melbourne, or direct from the manufacturers, at Croydon Cool Stores, Croydon, Vic. In New South Wales, the Perfection Fruit Wiper is also being used with satisfaction, and the proprietors advise that many enquiries are in hand from various parts of Victoria, also N.S.W. and the other States. The representatives at Leeton are Messrs. Greenwood and Howe.

Apart from the now familiar Apple wiping machine, the proprietors have developed a Pear wiping machine, to which they earnestly direct the attention of growers, as the machine is stated to satisfactorily cleanse the fruit without damage.

Points in favor of the Perfection Fruit Wiper include its efficiency and economy. The capacity is 75 cases per hour, the fruit is handled with gentleness, and reports from abroad speak favorably of fruit which has passed through this wiper. The upkeep is stated to be practically nil.

## PEST DESTROYER.

The new superfine Pestend (tobacco dust) specially manufactured by W. D. & H. O. Wills for the use of vegetable growers, is finely ground, and will be found very suitable for use in a dusting gun or any other mechanical duster. When used in a dusting gun, its extreme fineness causes it to attach itself to all insect life on the plant and on the plant itself. Its adhesive qualities permit of it to be used on wet or dry plants and crops need not be dusted so frequently as formerly. It will be found that besides being economical in use, superfine Pestend does its work quickly and effectively. Superfine Pestend is also an excellent soil fumigant, and if dug into the soil to a depth of six inches, will kill slaters, slugs, cutworms, millipedes, wireworms, ants, and other soil pests. All you have to do is scatter the Pestend evenly over the soil and plough or dig in.

## NEWS IN BRIEF.

Sympathy is extended to growers in the Hawkes Bay (N.Z.) district owing to very severe losses by frost.

An estimated crop of 500,000 cases of Apples has been reduced to probably 50,000 cases.

## Classified Advertisements

PASSION FRUIT Growers.—Man wants job this class of work. Thoroughly experienced this class of work. Personal testimonials, reasonable wage.—L. Boulter, Pakenham Upper, Victoria.

FOR SALE.—Apple Orchards, Upper Pakenham, Victoria, two 10-acre orchards, each with extra land adjoining, worked as one property, house packing shed, chiefly Jons. and Yates, in splendid order, heavy crop, owner other interests, sell cheap.—E. B. Giles, Pakenham East, Victoria.

# Motor Cars, Trucks, Tractors

## Farm Tractors.

### The Development of Pneumatic Tyres.

The application of rubber tyres to various types of tractors was first adopted in America, where tractors were equipped with these tyres for use under factory and yard conditions. Originally the tyres were of a solid type, and were not suitable for farm use on account of their low tractive efficiency in soft or wet and sticky soils. The development of pneumatic equipment for industrial purposes led to the appearance of pneumatic tyres for farm tractors in the United States of America in the Autumn of 1931. This pneumatic tyre was of larger proportions than anything that had previously been put in use, and owes its origin largely to the low-pressure balloon tyre adapted to aeroplane construction.

In the Spring of 1933, pneumatic tractor wheels were first placed on the market of Great Britain, and tractors equipped with pneumatic tyres are now being operated successfully over large areas in this country on almost every type of soil. One of the greatest advantages to the farmer is the ability of the tractor fitted with pneumatics to travel on arable land or roadways without alteration to the wheel equipment. This opened up new possibilities, in that the tractor now becomes a source of power for farm transport, as well as for cultivation.

Another advantage which was immediately apparent to farmers, was the ability of the new equipment to work on loose cultivated land and exert a greater drawbar pull than any type of steel wheel. The rolling resistance is from one third to one half that of steel wheels.

### FRUIT CITY HAS 2,000 MOTORS.

According to the latest police statistics, Mildura has over 2,000 motor cars and trucks registered. This represents one vehicle to every eight of the population in the district, a commentary of the use of power transportation in the fruit district. The annual fees paid total over £10,000, and there are said to be more garages in the district than in any other district of similar size in the Commonwealth. Taking Victoria as a whole, the ratio is one motor vehicle to ten people, excluding motor cycles.

### RACE AROUND AUSTRALIA.

Great interest is already being taken in the motor race around Australia, which will be one of the features of the 1938 celebrations to mark New South Wales' 150th birthday. A survey party is now going over the course suggested, sponsored by the National Roads and Motorists' Association and the Distributors of Pontiac cars. The party is headed by Norman (Wizard) Smith in a Pontiac car fitted with movie equipment and carrying press representatives on a 9,000 mile jaunt. It is announced that a Pontiac car will definitely be entered for the big race in 1938.

## China Uses Gas Fuel

China, in recent years, has made strenuous efforts to increase its transportation facilities—particularly in back provinces of the country—in order to make agricultural and mineral resources of these regions more readily available to other parts of China and to the world.

Motor trucks have been found to be practical in these interior regions, but development has been slow, especially in sections where motor-fuel costs are prohibitive, owing to high transportation charges and tax impositions, and any extensive development of this type of transportation is dependent upon the availability of a cheap fuel.

In its search for such fuel China began experimenting, about 3 years ago, with gas generated from charcoal, and, according to recent reports from Trade Commissioner A. V. Smith, at Shanghai, trucks and busses powered with such fuel are now operating in considerable numbers in several parts of the country.

The use of charcoal gas as motor fuel is not unique to China. Several European countries have also experimented with gas generator devices—particularly Germany and Italy—and the latter country passed a Bill requiring all motor buses, both urban and interurban, to be modified to run by "gasogenes" or other substitute motor fuels.

The "gasogene" is described as an apparatus, which is attached to the motor vehicle, for producing gas by the distillation of wood or charcoal, the gas so generated being burned in internal-combustion engines in place of gasoline.

### WARMING UP.

### Be Sure of Ventilation.

During Winter months the careful carowner allows more time in the "warming up" process of his engine when making a start from cold. Every year unfortunately, deaths are reported from exhaust gas poisoning usually due to inefficient ventilation in the garage while the engine is running.

Car drivers should be careful of monoxide poisoning, especially in a closed garage. A fine is not the greatest danger, but recently when an English motorist came before the local court charged with dangerous driving, a doctor said that he found defendant to be suffering from the effects of carbon-monoxide fumes. The motorist was ordered to pay costs.

### CHEVROLET COMPANY BUYS DURANT FACTORY.

General Motors-Holden's Ltd. have received advice that owing to inadequate assembly facilities to meet the increased demand for Chevrolet vehicles, the Chevrolet Company has bought the Durant plant complete. This comprises an area of 315,000 square feet of floor space in Oakland, Calif., and brings the number of Chevrolet assembly plants up to 11 and a total number of 24 plants owned by General Motors Ltd.

## Five Minutes a Day

In a recently-issued statistical report of motor accidents in Canada, received by the Royal Automobile Club of Queensland, the following significant paragraph appears:—"A careful study of tables of last year's motor car death and accident causes shows that a large percentage of them were the result of unnecessary hurry. Nearly all of them could have been avoided if every driver had started out every morning with the resolution to drive carefully enough for himself and the other fellow too, and to tax himself five minutes a day for the general cause of safety and to show his fellow humans just a wee bit of ordinary courtesy."

This is advice which every motor driver should take to heart. How often does that rush to make up a minute you have started late cause you to take unnecessary risks? That tax of five minutes per day in the cause of safety, if adopted by every motorist, would probably save a hundred lives this year. Surely those lives are worth the sacrifice.

### SPEED?

Judge: Do you deny that you were driving at an excessive speed?

Driver: I do.

Judge: Can you prove it?

Driver: Yes! I was on my way to the station to meet my mother-in-law.

## Save Money with Chevrolet The Cheapest Full-Sized Utility



Illustrated is the Chevrolet "6" Open Delivery with Coupe Front.

When you own a Chevrolet Utility it saves you money—on the day you buy and every mile you drive. The fact that Chevrolet is the lowest-priced full-sized utility is your first saving. Then, you'll find that Chevrolet is the lowest consumer of oil and petrol you've ever had. Next, you'll realize that Chevrolet is the most powerful in its price-class. And, finally, when you own a Chevrolet, its utter dependability, long life and low maintenance cost will satisfy you of your wisdom in buying it, as it has satisfied more than two million owners throughout the world. Before you buy your next utility come in and try the latest 1936 Chevrolet.

## Chevrolet Trucks Win Praise of Their Owners

### Read What This Owner Says:

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# Export & Commercial News



## Marketing Australian Fruit Abroad

### APPLES, PEARS, CITRUS, GRAPES

#### British and Continental Markets Compared.

Necessity for Continued Agreement Between Australia and New Zealand on Apple Quotas.

Interesting Interview with Mr. J. W. Blick, Producers' Distributing Society.

Early this year Mr. Blick, manager of the Fruit Section of the Producers' Co-operative Distributing Society Ltd., for several years member of the Apple and Pear Council, and chairman of the N.S.W. Citrus Export Association, was sent by his Society to investigate fruit marketing conditions in Great Britain. Mr. Blick attended the Empire Fruit Conference convened in London in June and made a careful study of marketing conditions in London and the Provinces. Interviewed on his recent return he said:—

**A**PPLE EXPORT this year was not, on the whole, profitable either to the Australian exporter or the British speculator. Both appear to have expected history to repeat itself by a return of the high prices that ruled in 1935, and overlooked the fact that a year of scarcity is usually followed by one of plenty. The position was aggravated, not only by a heavy crop of soft and Summer fruit in England, but also by much heavier supplies from Australia.

My observations and enquiries in London during the season—March to August inclusive—convinced me that the success of Australian Apple export depends on a number of important factors, e.g.:

- (1) Limitation of total quantity annually exported.
- (2) Agreement with New Zealand re quotas.
- (3) U.K. importation of foreign Apples.
- (4) Carry over to Australian/New Zealand season of English Apples in gas storage.
- (5) Production of Summer fruit in the U.K. and on the Continent.
- (6) Shipping programme that will prevent a preponderance of Australian and N.Z. deliveries in any one month.
- (7) Uniform application of grading regulations.
- (8) Suitability of varieties.
- (9) Quality.

Duties and quotas on foreign importations into the United Kingdom will undoubtedly be a material help but packing, condition and quality of our supplies, often leave room for improvement, and all the assistance needed cannot be at the expense of others. C.i.f. & e. business is also likely to become a thing of the past if we sell to U.K. buyers and then cut the ground from under their feet by sending such quantities on open consignment that the market is glutted through the original estimate of the season's shipments being considerably exceeded. A limit must, therefore, be placed on the quantity of Australian and N.Z. export, and when the limit is agreed on it must be adhered to.

Uniformity of trade, as well as pack, is also important. Under existing circumstances where Inspectors, year after year, examine fruit at the same port within the same State, there is a tendency for "local"

standards to be set up, and it is possible that the standards may differ in different States.

Further, it is essential that greater attention should be given to the selection of varieties for export. For instance, an Apple such as the Ribston Pippin should not be shipped regardless of quantity if Australia's quota can be made up without it, nor should one State ship inferior varieties to make up its quota if more acceptable supplies are available in other States. So far as I could judge the Apples in most demand in the order of their preference, subject to sound condition, were C.O.P., Granny Smiths, Dohertys, Rokewoods, Yates, Cleos., Jonathans, Dunns. Tastes vary in some markets—for instance, Glasgow likes larger Apples than London, and McIntosh Reds sell better than Jonathans in that centre.

With regard to values, opening demand for Granny Smiths was not as strong as in 1935, top prices being 18/- as against 15/- a year ago. Salesmen had difficulty in getting more than 10/- for large fruit. The

counts most in demand in London were 150's to 180's. Liberal quantities showing Bitter Pit were sold round 9/6 and 10/6. Granny Smith values did not, however, drift as in 1935—a brief early rush and then, before values suffered to any extent supplies fell away, quality improved, and the general tone of the market for the variety improved and continued on a satisfactory level throughout the whole season.

The position with other Apples was not as good. Opening values were satisfactory, and towards the end of April, when reports from Australia advised crops were light and quota unlikely to be shipped, the position was sound, but ultimate unexpected and unexplained increases in Australian shipments intensified instead of relieving the unsatisfactory marketing conditions that followed, and the slump first felt in May continued to the end of the season.

The C.I.F. & E. buyer suffered equally with the grower—an unprecedented quantity of Apples had been purchased in Australia. In 1935 purchasers did well. This not only led those that had bought to increase their purchases, but many who had never speculated overseas did so in 1936. Result of this increase in buying was that the larger purchasers not only found themselves with more fruit to sell on a weaker market than in 1935, but also face to face with the fact that many of their clients in 1935 had imported on their own account in 1936.

4½ million cases is as much as the United Kingdom can profitably absorb from Australia and New Zealand and even with that maximum it would

be suicidal to again land 2,000,000 cases in May. In a normal season early shipments can be expected to sell best, but even with this so, it is not sound policy to overload the early market with immature Apples. There has also been a tendency for increasing quantities to be shipped from the Commonwealth in February, as it has been a free month. 490,000 cases were shipped in February this year, as against 180,000 cases in February, 1933. Those that have been contributing to this position should remember that conditions are continually changing.

Owing to success of gas storage in England, increasing quantities of English Bramleys are being held for culinary purposes.

In this direction it is interesting to note that on January 1, 1936, there was gas storage space in England for 1,500,000 cases of Apples and contracts in hand for provision of further space for another 1,000,000 during 1936. This will increase the carry-over, and must affect the price of early Australian cooking Apples.

The position is further affected by increase in Apple shipments from South Africa. Prior to 1936 the total shipped in any year was 105,000 cases; in 1936 it rose to 300,000 cases. Dunns were the main Apple shipped, and that variety is largely used for culinary purposes.

#### Pears.

The disappointments caused by Apple export were, to some slight extent, offset by the satisfactory season for Pears. Values were from fair to good throughout the season.

Much of the credit for this happy result was due to Victorian exporters



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for the consistent excellence of their pack and high quality of their Pears, which were available in substantial quantities throughout the season.

When one State maintains a high standard for its output, I think its example might well be copied elsewhere throughout the Commonwealth, and to that end strongly advise other States to copy Victorian methods and use the Flat Bushel Pear Case used there.

While the Pear position is undoubtedly satisfactory, it needs careful watching and correct guidance, for one cannot help reflecting, when comparing the out-turn of Pears and Apples, that the success or otherwise associated with the oversea marketing of fruit is more a matter of chance than management—if conditions all along the line are favorable, results will be satisfactory; if difficult, the necessary co-ordination and control required to make the most of the position is lacking.

#### Citrus.

I was disappointed at the failure of N.S.W. interests to make any shipments of Oranges before August. Belated announcement of its intention to renew the 1935 Bounty indicates a complete lack of foresight and vision on the part of the Federal Government. At the same time, Dr. Page, Deputy Prime Minister, whom I interviewed shortly after my arrival in London, expressed the opinion that the Bounty of 2/- per case would again be forthcoming. This information I duly conveyed to Sydney, with the advice that I considered, in face of his opinion, our people could safely count on the Bounty if they shipped. South Australia, however, alone benefited with respect to early shipments.

Owing principally to the shortage of U.S.A. supplies, Navels sold exceptionally well. South Australia's first shipment which arrived in perfect condition ex. the "Sydney Star" made from 14/- to 19/- per case. The Bounty added to nett result accruing from such prices will represent a handsome return indeed to South Australian growers, and illustrates the loss that has followed N.S.W. refusal to accept an ordinary marketing risk until they had advice in black and white that the Bounty was available.

In spite of past difficulties, exports should proceed from N.S.W. for I am sure success is only a matter of education and experience. South Australian Navels, as stated above, arrived ex. "Sydney Star" in perfect condition. Fruit was of prime quality.

Oranges from the Irrigation Area, if carefully selected and picked at the right time, and properly graded and correctly handled and packed, should give equal satisfaction, for growing conditions are similar. Coastal fruit is not as sound a proposition, but a small experimental shipment of Navels and Common Oranges in the hands of Dr. Noble and Mr. Carne, of the Commonwealth Bureau of Scientific and Industrial Research examined in London had arrived in good order. Gosford and Wyong Valencias shipped in 1935 turned out reasonably well, so with Coastal supplies some small further improvement in condition on arrival will firmly establish the produce of that area in favor in the U.K.

One distinct advantage is always with us, viz., it is the general opinion of the trade that, provided Australian Navels and Valencias can be landed in sound condition, they are definitely superior to South African and Brazilian fruit.

This advantage is a distinct asset, and fully warrants continued Government assistance to those in the industry who are trying to establish a permanent outlet for Australian Oranges in the United Kingdom. Under existing circumstances it is difficult to ask for more than 11/- C.I.F.&E. for forward sales, as that is approximately the price, including despatch, being paid for Brazilian Oranges,

and those that buy, in summing the position up, say, "Why pay more for the same fruit grown in Australia?" On the other hand, if currency adjustments and tariffs which are political considerations fix the price of Australian Oranges at a figure below the cost of production, the result arrived at provides the industry with the strongest possible claim for Govern-

ment assistance. South Africa early recognised this aspect, and for several years export of Oranges from the Union was supported by a Bounty of 2/- per case. This year the Bounty has been reduced to 1/4, but the bald fact remains that under the assistance rendered in an outright way to the industry, export of citrus fruit from South Africa reached the huge total

of over 1½ million cases in 1935. Whatever view may be taken of the economic soundness or otherwise of assisted export, it is difficult to see how Australia can make good unless her growers receive a similar measure of protection.

The United Kingdom also provides, in a smaller way, an outlet for Australian Lemons, and some very satis-



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factory business was transacted in this line during the past season.

Other fruit that can be profitably exported are Plums and Grapes. The limited quantities of both shipped from Australia have, in each instance, arrived just as South African supplies of the same variety were petering out, consequently it is only a matter of landing Plums and/or Grapes in sound condition in London to ensure satisfactory returns.

#### Markets.

Covent Garden, in the heart of London, holds pride of place, possibly in the world, certainly in the United Kingdom. Here, within a stones throw of the "Strand," fruit from all parts of the world is displayed for sale by agents operating, some in community buildings like the Municipal Markets in Sydney, some in adjacent private premises, while quite a number of the larger selling organisations have their own private stores, as well as central positions in the open markets. In the Floral Hall two or three firms conduct periodical auction sales. Otherwise selling in Covent Garden is conducted by private treaty. Basement space is available in markets and surrounding stores, and in many of the later fruit is also handled on first and even second floors.

**Spitalfields.**—Premises of the London Fruit Exchange are at this centre, and sales are regularly conducted several days each week by the large auction firms whose offices are also in the same building. These firms sell in varying rotation from day to day, and the quantity of fruit, drawn from all parts of the world, dealt with weekly is enormous. Buyers from all parts of the United Kingdom congre-

gate in the auction room; admission is limited to members, and fruit is sold on samples. Outside the auction business in the Fruit Exchange Building, extensive buildings similar to the Municipal Markets in Sydney cover an open marketing area and a number of firms also occupy outside premises. They sell by private treaty, but operate on a smaller scale than the agents in Covent Garden.

The **Borough Market** is on the south side of the River, near Southwark Cathedral. A couple of large firms operate there, one regularly conducting auction sales. Remaining business of considerable volume is conducted on a smaller scale by private treaty salesmen.

In all three markets, vegetables are sold as well as fruit. Flowers are also an important item, particularly at Covent Garden.

Of the three markets I prefer Covent Garden, and on the whole prefer London to Provincial distributing centres, but certain factors, local and otherwise, weigh in the ultimate analysis of any marketing position. Hull has more ready access to Continental markets, Southampton is the earliest possible point of distribution, but some boats make Liverpool first port of call. Glasgow is a better market than London for large Apples, also for some varieties—McIntosh Reds, for example. Bristol and Newcastle are not readily accessible to the Australian shipper, Manchester is usually overlooked owing to its proximity to Liverpool, and it is not generally known in Australia that Birmingham is the second City in the United Kingdom, and one in which at the moment unemployment is almost, if not en-

tirely, unknown. Its city markets compare more than favorably with the Municipal Markets of Sydney, and serve an inland population of 2,000,000.

**Continent.**—Owing to import restrictions, embargoes and currency problems, trade with main Continental countries is difficult, and in some cases impossible. Scandinavia provides an exception, but West Australia, owing to a definite preference for its Apples, absorbs most of the trade there. In view of the Continental position generally, the concessions embodied in the recent Trade Agreement with Czechoslovakia and Belgium are welcome and should be helpful.

**Empire Fruit Conference.**—I attended, as representative of the N.S.W. Citrus Export Association, the Empire Fruit Conference held in London the week commencing June 29. The United Kingdom, all the Dominions, and some of the Crown Colonies were represented at the gathering, which was presided over by Lord Strathcarron. Different fruits, after being suitably grouped, were dealt with by interested sub-committees, and reports and recommendations arrived at were subsequently submitted to the respective organisations and Governments concerned. These recommendations will be finally dealt with at Ottawa next year, and much depends upon extent to which they are embodied in the Agreement that will be arrived at there in 1937.

Meanwhile the most pleasing feature of the fruit trade in the United Kingdom is the gradual and material increase in Empire supplies. Less than 30 years ago the percentage was negligible. To-day imports of Empire-grown fruit exceed supplies from all foreign sources. The subjoined figures record the progress and mark the position arrived at in 1935:

#### Average Imports, Five Years.

Origin	1909-13	1919-23	1924-28	1929-33	1933	1934	1935
	000	000	000	000	000	000	000
Empire Countries . . .	108	166	266	449	606	621	777
Foreign Countries . . .	605	653	889	920	857	732	703
Total . . . . .	713	819	1,155	1,369	1,463	1,353	1,480

#### Empire Proportion.

of total % . . . . .	15.1	20.2	23.0	32.8	41.4	45.9	52.5

#### Increase in Empire Percentages.

	1925.	1930.	1935.
Apples . . . . .	43.9	61.9	63.4
Pears . . . . .	27.8	31.4	39.1
Oranges . . . . .	19.4	23.7	43.1
Grape Fruit . . . . .	18.9	15.8	66.5
Bananas . . . . .	20.0	39.5	79.6

The several months spent in markets in the U.K. afforded me the fullest opportunity for observation, in-

that extent immediate progress is possible.

The system suggested has been adopted by South Africa both with citrus and deciduous fruits, by the Californian Fruit Exchange, and by the N.Z. Apple Board. Its adoption by co-operative exporters in the industry in Australia would at once strengthen the movement, bring to it C.I.F. & E. business that at present is going into other hands, and attract to the co-operative societies now engaged in shipping a large measure of those supplies handled but only partially controlled by inland district co-operative societies. Such a move would be of substantial value to growers. It would enable them, once their own co-operative society became directly linked up with the marketing end of the business, to exercise a definite controlling voice in the ultimate disposal of their produce.

Mary, five years old, had been told to watch a silk dress airing in front of the fire while her mother went upstairs.

Later she called up the stairs: "Mummy, can I turn the dress now? It's lovely and brown on one side."

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CITY FRUIT MARKETS, SYDNEY

# Apple and Pear Industry

## Justification for Increased Grant Important Speech by Senator J. B. Hayes

THE President of the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council (Mr. J. B. Mills) has made available a copy of the speech recently delivered by Senator J. B. Hayes (Tasmania) in the Commonwealth Senate.

Mr. Mills states he is in complete accord with the sentiments expressed by Senator Hayes, as these are in keeping with the approach by Executive members of the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council to the Commonwealth authorities regarding the desired assistance.

The speech by Senator Hayes is as follows:—

"I associate myself with the protest made by Senator Payne, who stated that a bounty of 4½d. a case was not sufficient. The bounty should be larger, and it should be made permanent. I do not propose to go over Senator Payne's figures, but I can epitomize them by saying that from Tasmania last year 1,600,000 cases were exported on consignment, the average return being 2/6 a case on the wharfs. It is estimated that, after picking, grading, and casing the Apples, it costs the growers 2/7½ a case to put them on the wharves. If we allow 2/3 a case as a cost of growing the fruit—and I know it is difficult to arrive at a reliable estimate, due to varying conditions—it means that a loss of 2/4 a case is sustained on Apples exported from Tasmania on consignment. The f.o.b. sellers fare a little better. The orchardists cannot go on doing that. As a matter of fact, they are worse off than are any other primary producers in Australia.

"With the exception of wool, very little can be grown in Australia at the present time and exported without assistance. Sometimes that assistance is given in the form of a bounty, but more often it is in the form of a home-consumption price. For my part, I cannot see any difference between creating a home-consumption price, and thus collecting an increased amount from the public, and paying a straightforward bounty from the proceeds of taxation. In both cases the assistance comes from the public. In regard to wheat, prices are abnormal this year because of world seasonal conditions, but when they recede to their ordinary level, a home-consumption price will be imposed in Australia. The wheat growers have already received £14,000,000 by way of special grant, but they enjoy the benefits of an equalisation scheme, and the in-

terests of dried fruit growers are guarded by the Dried Fruits Marketing Board.

"I do not begrudge the producers of these commodities the benefits they receive: they cannot get along without them. The point is, however, that these methods of assistance are not available to the growers of Apples and Pears, which are perishable, and, therefore, not amenable in the same degree to organised marketing. Further complications are introduced by the existence of different varieties, and by having to meet different competition at the various seasons of the year. Altogether it is not practicable to establish a home-consumption price. I maintain, however, that the growers of Apples and Pears are as much entitled to a livelihood as are the growers of dried fruits. Under the dried fruits marketing scheme, it is laid down that four-fifths of the crop shall be exported, leaving one-fifth to be disposed of in Australia at an average price of £17 a ton more than London parity, which represents an additional £238,000 collected by the producers from the Australian public. Thus the dried fruits producers receive special assistance from the public to the extent of £238,000, while the Apple and Pear growers, whose industry is in many respects comparable, are to receive only £100,000.

"Now we are told that the growers must limit exports. That means that they will have to dump an increasing quantity of Apples on the Australian market. The position of the growers is going from bad to worse. Some friends of mine grubbed their Apple trees, but, as Senator Payne has told the Senate, the areas are not large enough, and very often the land is unsuitable for any other form of production. The position of the Apple growers in Tasmania is extremely serious. If they could come under marketing regulations such as those governing other forms of production, have a marketing board, and obtain a fixed price for the quantity consumed in Australia, their position, perhaps, could be improved. But they are unable to do this.

"Apple growers are an essential part of the Australian population. The industry means as much to Tasmania as the wheat industry means to some of the mainland States. Apple growing provides, or should provide, producers in Tasmania with a living. As at present the industry does not give them a decent living, they feel that

they have a claim—I use the word advisedly—on the Commonwealth Government for assistance. The suggestion made by Senator Payne for

### A Bounty of 1/- a Case

is not a bit too high. I do not know how the bounty was fixed at 4½d. a case. I suggest that the Government appoint a board or commission of business men—the industry is important enough to warrant such a course—to inquire fully into the position of the growers and recommend what would be a fair bounty for the Government to pay, having in mind the financial assistance given to other primary producers by the public in the form of home-consumption prices.

"I urge the appointment of a commission of business men, not because I have anything adverse to say about Departmental officers, but because I think that the inquiry should be made by persons having a thorough knowledge of the industry. There is ample precedent for this course. For years representations were made with respect to the amounts granted by the Commonwealth to the States, and finally the Government appointed the Commonwealth Grants Commission, which took evidence and ob-

tained information that would not otherwise have been available to Parliament. The commission now makes its recommendation to the Government, and the amounts so recommended are paid. Such a commission to enquire into the Apple industry would satisfy itself about the difficulties of the orchardists, and would be in a position to recommend to the Government that a bounty should be paid, and what other measures should be adopted to stabilise the industry. I could offer some suggestions, but I am not sufficiently au fait with all phases of the industry to say definitely what should be done to ensure its safety.

"It is no exaggeration to say that the Apple and Pear growers in Tasmania are worse off than any other primary producers in Australia. Last season they exported 3,000,000 cases, and for a considerable portion of the shipment the return barely covered the cost of picking, packing, freight, paper, and other incidental charges. I urge the Government to institute a full inquiry to ascertain the facts and then do what is fair for the growers. I am sure that such an inquiry would result in a largely increased and permanent bounty."

## FIRMS IN THE FRUIT TRADE

### F. Chilton

(No. 14 Series, N.S.W.)

THE subject of this review, Mr. F. Chilton, of the City Fruit Markets, Sydney, N.S.W., is one of the best known and highly respected members of the fruit trade in Australia. Prior to commencing business as a fruit commission agent, Mr. Chilton had been a number of years working on his father's orchard at Turramurra, and gained wide experience in the cultivation, pruning, spraying, packing and general preparation of fruit. The knowledge gained in this respect has been of the utmost value to him in his business as a fruit salesman.

He commenced operations as a fruit agent in the old George-street markets, and after the demolition of that building he opened up in the Belmore fruit markets in 1894. He transferred to his present premises when the Belmore Market was superseded by the City Markets in 1911.

The business gradually grew until it is now one of the largest fruit distributing businesses in Australia. Mr. Chilton handles large quantities of N.S.W. fruit, in addition to his wide connection with growers in Victoria, Tasmania, Queensland and South Australia.

Up till recent years, Mr. Chilton was a regular attendant at Interstate

Conferences of fruitgrowers, and his knowledge and advice have always been freely available to growers throughout the Commonwealth, and he has taken a practical interest in all developments in the N.S.W. fruit trade, which have had for their objects the improving of marketing conditions and developing the sales of fruit generally.

He has travelled extensively throughout the Commonwealth and has come into personal contact with orchardists in all States interested in marketing their fruit in N.S.W. He has devoted much time to the development of the up-country fruit trade and his fairness in dealing with both grower and buyer has gained for him a reputation which has enabled him to build up and develop a regular demand from buyers who handle fruit in large quantities.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Chilton's son, Harry, is now taking an active and keen interest in the business. He has already had the pleasure of meeting many Tasmanian and Victorian orchardists, and the knowledge gained by him whilst growing up in the trade under his father's instruction places him in a position to render valuable assistance in the future development of the business.

## Herbert Wilson Pty. Ltd.

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# Market Notes and Prices

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

**Sydney** (30/11/36). — Mr. L. T. Pearce, market representative, Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W., reports as follows:—Apples: Allsops 6/- to 12/-, Lord Nelson 6/- to 12/-, Crofton 9/- to 14/-, Del. 14/- to 20/-, Demo. 9/- to 13/-, G. Smith 12/- to 17/-, few 19/-, Yates 7/- to 13/-, Pears: B. Park 7/- to 12/-, Apricots (N.S.W.) Metropolitan 3/6 to 5/-, small 2/- to 3/-, few large 6/- to 8/-, inland 5/- to 8/- half bush. case. Bananas (N.S.W. and Qld.), 10/- to 16/- trop. case; Cherries, most sales 4/6 to 6/-, special 7/- quarter-bush. case. Citrus: Grapefruit, N.S.W. 6/- to 12/-, few 14/- bush. Lemons, N.S.W. 4/- to 10/-, few 12/- bush. Oranges, Navels 7/- to 10/-, few 11/- bush., Vals. 2/6 to 11/- bush. Gooseberries 4/6 to 6/- quarter-bush. case, Mangos (Qld.), Turpentine 5/- to 7/- half bush. Apple 18/- to 22/- bush. Plums, most sales 3/- to 5/-, few special 6/- to 8/-, Peaches, N.S.W. 3/- to 5/-, few special 6/- to 8/- half bush.; Passionfruit, N.S.W. 5/- to 8/-, few 12/-, Qld. 4/- to 7/-, special 10/- half case. Pineapples, Qld. Queen 10/- to 16/- trop. case; Papaws, Qld. 10/- to 16/- trop. case, Rock Melons (Qld.) 13/- bush.

## VICTORIA.

### Market Report for November.

The delayed warm weather which arrived towards the end of the month not only brought on to the market new season varieties, but also improved the movement of sales. Other factors having a bearing during the month were the drought conditions existing in northern N.S.W. and Queensland, and the irrigation of citrus areas in the Mildura area during the latter two weeks which was reflected in Orange supplies.

**Oranges:** Light supplies in mid-month, but came back to normal in the latter half with satisfactory prices. Somewhat slowed up by the arrival of new Summer fruits.

**Lemons:** Supplies were short in last half owing to warmer conditions stimulating the demand.

**Grapefruit:** Quiet trading until last week, when an improvement with better prices was reported.

**Apples:** Firm in earlier half of month owing to good Queensland demand, but eased later. Supplies and prices then satisfactory.

**Pears:** Only a few available during the month, Packhams and Josephines.

**Pineapples:** Very scarce, prices correspondingly firm.

**Cherries:** Arrived early in month. Locals were affected by rains. N.S.W. came along well and in good order. S.A. Cherries arrived towards last week and sold to good prices.

**Peaches:** Very few available in early varieties. In last week Mayflowers were on sale.

**Apricots:** Very few seen. Early varieties were small but of good quality.

**Berries** made their appearance. Strawberries were plentiful, Loganberries scarce. Gooseberries opened up in last week and sold well.

**Plums:** Very few early varieties seen, and these were small and of poor quality.

**Melbourne** (1/12/36). — Prices quoted by the Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association were as follows:—Per Case: Apples, eating, 6/- to 9/-; few higher; cooking, 5/- to 7/-; few higher. Apricots, half cases, 8/- to 16/-. Bananas, per double case, green, best, 7/- to 14/-; few higher. Grapefruit, 6/- to 15/-. Lemons, 4/- to 7/-. Loquats, half cases, 5/- to 8/-. Oranges: Vals. 7/- to 11/-, Common Oranges 5/- to 7/-, special higher. Papaws, 12/- to 16/- double case. Peaches, 5/- to 7/- half case. Pineapples, 14/- to 20/-; choice, to 24/-; few higher. Passionfruit scarce. Plums, half case, 3/- to 5/-.

The Melbourne market manager of the Federal Citrus Council of Australia reports as follows:—Val., average standards, including N.S.W., 112-168, 7/6 to 8/-, a few 9/; 182-200, 6/6 to 7/; 220-218, 5/6 to 6/-; selected, wrapped, to 10/-, few 11/-; specially selected unwrapped, 12/-, few 13/-; specially selected wrapped, 13/- and 14/-, a few higher. Grapefruit, Marsh seedless, average standards, large, 38-45, 5/-; 53-60, 7/-; 68-75, 8/- and 9/-; selected to 12/-, a few 13/-; specially selected, 15/-, some higher. Lemons, average standards, to 10/-; good standards, to 11/-, a few 12/-.

## QUEENSLAND.

**Brisbane:** Messrs. Robsons Pty. Ltd., report under date November 19 as follows:—

Continued dry weather conditions are now having a very serious effect on green vegetable supplies, the position now being very acute.

Choice Apples and Pears are scarce, and all varieties of citrus are selling at firm rates.

There is a strong demand for Pineapples, which are selling at high rates.

Stone fruits are now appearing on our market and are selling freely.

The following is a summary of ruling rates:—

**Apples:** Jons. 12/- to 14/-, Romes 10/- to 14/-, Sturmers 11/- to 13/-, Demos. and Croftons 13/- and 14/-, Yates 12/- to 14/- and G. Smiths to 16/-. Oranges, 8/- to 10/-. Lemons, 8/- to 12/-. Pineapples, Smooth-leaf 12/- to 14/- case, Rough-leaf 11/- to 15/-. Papaws, 9/- to 11/- tropical case. Mangoes, 6/- to 8/-. Passionfruit, choice 8/- to 10/-. Stone fruits, Cherries, choice 9/- to 11/-, Plums 10/- to 14/-, Apricots 11/- to 15/-. Peaches 8/- to 11/-, Bananas, 6's 8/- to 10/-, 7's 10/- to 11/-, 8's 11/- to 13/-. Vegetables: Cabbage, choice quality to 26/- bag; Beans to 24/- per 30 lb. bag; Peas to 15/- per 30 lb. bag; Cucumbers, 13/- bush. case. Produce: Potatoes to £22 ton; Onions £23 ton and Pumpkins 12/- cwt.

**Brisbane:** Messrs. Clark and Jesser report under date November 21 as follows:—

The continued dry weather here has had a very bad effect on the supply of vegetables, with the result that higher prices are ruling now than has been the case for some years past. The present prices are: Apples, Dem. and Yates 12/- to 14/-. Oranges 8/- to 9/-, small sizes 6/- to 7/-. Plums, Wilson 10/- to 13/-. Peaches 8/- to 10/-. Cherries 6/- to 7/-. Apricots 12/- to 14/-. Mangoes 7/- to 8/-. Tomatoes 12/- to 14/-. Pineapples 13/- to 15/-. Beans 25/- sugar bag. Cabbages 24/- to 25/- per chaff bag. Pumpkins 14/- per cwt. Sweet Potatoes 12/- cwt. English Potatoes 23/- to 24/- cwt. Bananas, Sixes 8/-, Sevens 11/-, Eights 12/- to 13/-.

Early stone fruit to hand so far is very small this no doubt is owing to the very dry hot weather which has prevailed for the past few months.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

**Perth** (20/11/36). — Apples: Yates, dumps, 10/- to 14/6 (special to 16/-), G. Smith 9/- to 12/- (special to 14/-), Nickajacks 9/- to 10/6, Rokewood 7/- to 9/-. Citrus: Vals., flats, 4/- to 6/- (special to 7/-, others from 3/6), dumps 5/- to 8/- (special to 9/-), Navels, flats, 6/- to 8/6 (special to 10/6), dumps 9/- to 14/- (special to 16/-); Lemons 2/6 to 4/9 (special to 7/6). Other lines: Tomatoes, local, 6/- to 14/-, ex Geraldton, half dumps, 1/- to 4/-, flats 6/- to 14/- (special to 16/-, inferior from 1/-); Passionfruit, quarter cases, to 22/-, Loquats 3/- to 10/-, Apricots, flats 8/- to 11/6 (special to 14/-, inferior from 3/-); Peaches, trays, 5/- to 9/-.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

**Adelaide** (27/11/36). — Apples eating 13/- case, do. (cooking) 3/-, Apricots 8/-, Bananas (Qld.) 15/- to 17/- case, Cherries (dark) 9/- to 12/- half case, do. (light) 8/- to 10/- half case. Gooseberries 5/- to 6/- case, Lemons 4/-, Loquats 7/-, Oranges (Common) 10/-, do (Navel) 12/-, Passionfruit 35/- case.

## NEW ZEALAND.

**Dunedin** (20/11/36). — Messrs. Reillys Central Produce Mart Ltd., report as follows:—Business during the week has been brisk, with increasing consignments of fruit and vegetables coming to hand. Some cool store Dels. and Sturmer Apples are being received, and netting good values. For good quality dessert Pears there is a better enquiry.

Increased consignments of Cherries and Strawberries are now arriving, but values so far, are not up to expectations. Heavy supplies of local Gooseberries are coming to hand.

Oranges are extremely scarce, only a few Australian Vals. being available, and it is apparent that no Californians will be coming forward by the "Makura," leaving San Francisco on December 18. The market will be dependent on Jamaicans, a shipment of which will be due in Dunedin on November 24. Jamaican Oranges in the North Island are bringing extremely high values.

Prices, per case: Oranges, Cal. Lemons 55/-; Grapefruit, 37/6; Grapes, Red Emperors 30/-, Almerias 32/6; Canadian Apples, Jons. and McIntosh Reds 22/6; ripe Bananas 28/6; Pines to 30/-; Apples, Del. 7/- to 10/-, Sturmers 6/- to 10/-, R. Beauty 8/-, Lord Woleleys 7/6, small and second grade varieties 3/6 to 5/-; Pears, choice Winter Cole 10/6 to 12/6, P. Barry 8/-; N.Z. Lemons 8/- to 12/-.

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All consignments for  
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## SPECIAL NOTICE TO FRUITGROWERS

In response to numerous requests from growers for information as to who are members of the

### Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association of Victoria

the following list is given. All are members of the above Association, and are registered firms carrying on business in the

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GOLDEN VALLEY FRUIT CO. PTY. LTD. (15).

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W. A. WATKINS (5).

P. A. PATRIKEOS (36).

G. WOOLF & SONS (29-30).

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Correspondence is invited by the Association.

Office : 21 Wholesale Fruit Market,  
Queen Street, Melbourne. Phone F 4866.

# N.S.W. Fruit and Vegetable Industry

## ANNUAL DINNER

If there were any statesmen in Australia to-day, the difficulties between New Zealand and Australia would be straightened out in a few minutes," said Gen. J. Heane at the annual dinner of the N.S.W. Chamber of Fruit and Vegetable Industries, held in conjunction with the Fruit Merchants' Sectional Committee of the Chamber of Commerce at the C.T.A., Sydney, on Wednesday, November 18. There was a large attendance, and among the visitors were:—The Hon. J. B. Shand, M.L.A., representing the Government of N.S.W.; A. U. Tonking, M.L.A., R. J. Hawkes, President, Sydney Chamber of Commerce; S. Corner, President, The Rotary Club; D. J. Howse, General Passenger and Freight Agent, representing the N.S.W. Government Railways; W. Taylor, N.Z. Trade and Tourist Commissioner; General J. Heane and Col. E. E. Herrod, President and Secretary, Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W.; W. J. Black and Maj. Gen. H. Gordon Bennett, President and Secretary, N.S.W. Citrus Growers' Defence Association; J. J. Field and J. Y. Sheridan, President and Secretary, Master Fruit Carriers' Association; T. Coady and J. G. Beacham, President and Secretary, Master Carriers' Association; H. Souter, Department of Commerce; C. A. Fisher, City Inspector; Bank of N.S.W.; R. K. Whately, manager, Bank of N.S.W., Haymarket; D. D. Atkins, Chief Inspector, Dept. of Agriculture; T. H. Cassell, Niagara Park Fruit-growers' Limited; Neville Cardus, well-known cricket writer; and Abe Waddington, English Test cricketer.

### The Toasts.

Proceedings opened with the toast of the King, proposed by the Chairman (Mr. L. J. Jenkins). Parliament was proposed by Mr. J. J. Mason and responded to by the Hon. J. B. Shand M.L.A. The Fruit and Vegetable Industries was proposed by Mr. R. J. Hawkes, president of the Sydney Chamber of Commerce and responded to by Gen. J. Heane, W. J. Black, president Citrus Defence League and Mr. A. C. Ward. Our Guests was proposed by Mr. C. R. Walker, vice-president of the Chamber of Fruit and Vegetable Industries and responded to by Mr. W. Taylor, Trade Commissioner for New Zealand, Mr. D. J. Howse, N.S.W. Railways and Mr. Neville Cardus. The toast of the President and Chairman was proposed by Mr. Walter Musgrave, senior, Vice President of the Chamber of Fruit and Vegetable Industries.

The Hon. J. B. Shand in reply to the toast to the Parliament said there was a ray of hope that the problems which beset the fruit growers of N.S.W. would soon be solved. He claimed that the present Government had grappled with their problems as with those of every other section of the Community. The Government was particularly desirous of helping the growers.

Mr. A. U. Tonking, M.L.A. assured the gathering that the Government had given consideration to the fruit industry, but not nearly as much as it might have done. The Premier (Mr. Stevens), had investigated overseas markets while he was abroad and would do all possible to improve those markets for Australian fruits.

Gen. J. Heane replying to the toast of the Fruit and Vegetable Industries, heatedly attacked the attitude of the Government for its lack of interest in the fruit industry. The public and Parliament know little about the problems of the growers, he said. While other sections of the community had their position improved, the grower was still as badly off as ever. The position with regard to the New Zealand embargo was acute, and all Governments did was to pass notes to one another without any decent effort being made to bring about a satisfactory settlement. The delegation to N.Z., of which he was a member, had a magnificent reception in the Dominion. The Ministry and the public of N.Z. were keen on getting N.S.W. fruit, yet nothing definite can be reached. We have two Governments—the Federal Government and the N.Z. Government—who will not come together on the subject. The N.S.W. citrus industry was dying for the lack of markets, and the Government of N.S.W. should push the matter before the Federal House and get something done about the embargo. The growers wanted deeds, not words, from politicians. He laid the whole of the blame for the embargo on the Federal Government. If there were a few real statesmen in politics today, the difficulties that confronted the industry in relation to the embargo, would be amicably settled in a few minutes. (Applause.)

New Zealand naturally wanted markets for her Potatoes and should have them. The only people who were afraid of fire blight were those who knew nothing about the disease. There was no doubt that Victoria wanted the Potato market for itself, and that was why N.Z. Potatoes were kept out.

Gen. Heane's statements brought the Government representative to his feet, and Mr. Shand said he would place before Parliament in no uncertain manner, the position of the embargo as stated by Gen. Heane, and urge them to place the matter more fully before the Federal Government. It was an injustice for N.S.W. to have its produce shut out of New Zealand because other States claimed that the Dominion was solely their market.

Mr. A. C. Ward, speaking on behalf of those interested on the selling side of the fruit industry, said he was not long engaged on the selling side before he became aware of the suspicious attitude of the growers towards the agents. Dishonesty was not always on the selling side, and the Chamber of Fruit and Vegetable Industries was doing a great service in helping to straighten out matters that were at variance. The agents were doing a vital job in the interests of the fruit industry, and doing it well. One of the things he desired to ventilate was the attitude of the City Council toward the tenants of the Municipal Markets. The Town Hall authorities were blind to the interests of the tenants and were responsible for the greatest injustice ever perpetrated on any section of the community. All they did was to extract every ounce of revenue from tenants and give nothing in return. He had the utmost contempt for the manner in which the interest of tenants was neglected. The City Council was sublimely indifferent to the people occupying the markets, and charged them thirty times more for a space of bare concrete than most property owners charged for office rent in city buildings.

The agents have a standard and the principle of fair dealing is firmly placed on their agenda. The slogan

"Service with integrity" was not an idle one, it was a sincere indication that the Chamber of Fruit and Vegetable Industries was out to render a service that would eventually fuse together the producer, the distributor, and the consumer.

Mr. W. Taylor, N.Z. Trade Commissioner, in responding to the toast of the visitors, said he did not dabble in politics, but he knew New Zealand felt that Australia started the embargo business over shutting out N.Z. Potatoes. His policy was one of co-operation, and if he could assist in any way he was at their service in bringing about a better understanding.

At the close of the evening, which had been enlivened by musical items, Mr. Walter Musgrave, senior Vice-President of the Chamber of Fruit and Vegetable Industries, presented the chairman with a pair of field-glasses in a leather case, and a set of cut-glass for Mrs. Jenkins. In making

the presentation on behalf of members of the Chamber, Mr. Musgrave said the chairman had devoted a great deal of time to the business of Chamber. He had displayed a keen interest and wide vision in his endeavour to weld all the organisations connected with the industry into a whole, so that they might all work together for the good of all concerned. Their chairman had followed closely the motto of the Chamber "Service with integrity" and had proved an indefatigable worker. They could show their appreciation of his work by presenting him with a suitable gift, and a gift to Mrs. Jenkins would be some compensation for the time the business of the Chamber had robbed her of the companionship of her husband.

The chairman (Mr. L. J. Jenkins) suitably responded, and thanked the members of the Chamber for the great assistance they had given him in his efforts to place the industry on a better basis.

## Among the Retailers

### SATURDAY HALF HOLIDAY FOR FRUIT AND VEGETABLE RETAILERS IN MELBOURNE SUBURBS.

#### Hawkers Not Permitted to Sell During Restricted Hours.

The hours of trading of metropolitan fruit and vegetable shops and hawkers of fruit and vegetables on Saturdays between May 1 and October 31 are now further defined in a regulation approved by the Governor-in-Council. The regulation provides that all such shops in the metropolitan area, with the exception of those in the area enclosed by Flinders, Spencer, Latrobe, Victoria and Spring streets, must close at 1 p.m. on Saturdays in May, June, July, August, September and October.

A petition signed by a majority of the shopkeepers was responsible for the reduced trading hours.

Some protests have been made by hawkers, but under the regulation they will not be allowed to sell fruit or vegetables in the prescribed area after the shops are closed.

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Commenting on the foregoing, Mr. E. W. Thompson, Secretary Melbourne and Metropolitan Retail Fruitgrowers' Association, writes as follows:—

"Retail fruiterers consider that the half-holiday will be some little amelioration of the long trading hours previously existing in the business and confidently appeal to the sympathetic public to procure all their requirements before the closing hour.

"As the new condition will apply to the Winter months only, when fruit and vegetables remain in good condition for lengthy periods, no difficulty will be experienced by the public in getting their supplies for the week-end. It is also anticipated that the Friday will be utilised by most fruiterers to secure supplies, and that most growers of fruit and vegetables will make that day their principal market day also."

#### PARKING OF RETAILERS' CARTS AT THE VICTORIA MARKET.

Representatives of the Victoria Market Combined Traders' Council recently interviewed officials of the Melbourne City Council in reference to the inadequate parking arrangements for buyers' vehicles, whilst the retailers were purchasing goods in the early hours at the Victoria Market.

It was pointed out that owing to the great number of retailers' vehicles temporarily permitted to occupy unoccupied stands in the new sheds, the

position was not so acute as it will be in a few week's time, when all the stands will be fully occupied by growers who will be there to dispose of their produce, and possibly the market officials will find difficulty in securing space for some other in peak periods, that retailers' vehicles will be forced to go further out and find space in surrounding streets to the great inconvenience of the regular traffic in those thoroughfares.

The deputation was received very cordially by the Council officials, and after many suggestions had been advanced and discussed to relieve the position, which admittedly is of vital necessity, an assurance was given that the matter would receive urgent and serious consideration from the officers of the Council. The deputation, on retiring, thanked the officials for their interest in the matter and expressed the view that good results would follow their interview.

#### DEALERS IN THE MARKET.

At the last meeting of the Executive of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Retail Fruiterers' Association, much discussion took place in reference to the number of dealers operating in vegetables at the Victoria Market every morning. It was pointed out that owing to the scarcity of vegetables there has been a big increase in the number of these dealers who habitually buy up whatever lines of goods are scarce, very often before the grower is aware of the true value of same, and then retailers are forced to purchase from them at greatly inflated prices, and very often of the opinion they are purchasing from legitimate growers, as on many occasions the goods are not even removed from the growers' stand, and not even the extra market stall fee paid.

A glaring instance occurred recently when a grower arrived at the market with a load of Lettuce, and before he had ascertained the ruling market price for same, he was interviewed by a dealer and a sale effected for a large number of boxes at 4/- per case, the dealer almost immediately started reselling them at 8/- a case for the same Lettuce, and many buyers really thought they were buying from the grower, as case after

(Continued on page 40.)

# Preserving Fruit by Refrigeration

## Various Methods Tested

SEVERAL experiments were conducted in England last year in an attempt to discover how fruit could be best preserved by the various methods in use. It was pointed out in reports appearing in "The Fruit Grower" (Eng.) that in 1913 a special fruit store was erected, and experiments undertaken with Bramley's Apples. The war intervened, and the problem was postponed until 1919, when similar stores were erected. These stores were cooled by forced air circulation at a temperature of 38 to 40 degrees F., which kept the Apples satisfactorily until February.

Average prices increasing, an attempt was made to keep the fruit until March, and a temperature of 33 degrees, but while the Apples appeared in good condition externally, it was found that they deteriorated rapidly after leaving cool storage. The Low Temperature Research Station, Cambridge, then began a study and found that Bramleys would not stand storage below 37.5 degrees F. for any long period, and experiments were begun with alternate methods of storage, and it was found that by allowing the carbon dioxide produced by the Apples to accumulate to 8 per cent. in a gas-tight store, kept at a temperature of 40 deg., their storage life was prolonged 100 per cent., compared with similar Apples stored at the same temperature but without CO<sub>2</sub>.

This led up to the introduction of commercial gas storage in 1929. Since the Apples, at 60 degrees, the usual temperature at which they enter the store, produce a considerable amount of heat, tests were made with forced air circulation, which proved satisfactory, and this method is the one now in use for gas storage of fruit. There are now something like 173 gas storage chambers on farms in England and they are proving most satisfactory.

Though the first success has been with Bramleys, a cooking variety of Apple, the system is being tried for dessert varieties and for Tomatoes, Peas, and other fruits. Experiments are going on to obviate the loss of flavour in storage, and the introduction of some sort of absorber of CO<sub>2</sub> is being tried out.

The equipment of farms for the gas storage of stone fruits is also being attempted, and claims of success are being made by various systems.

### Soft Fruits.

In a paper recently prepared by Mr. T. N. Morris, upon the freezing of soft fruits before processing, he states that from the operation of the law of chemical change, it follows that the lower the freezing and storage temperature, the better will be the result, i.e., the less chemical change there will be. In addition to being a function of the kind of fruit stored, and the period of storage, the temperature of storage is also a function for the purpose for which the fruit is intended. While satisfactory results are obtained with Raspberries, Loganberries, etc., when these are frozen dry, Strawberries are improved by being frozen either in strong syrup or after standing in a cool place in contact with half their weight

of sugar, with occasional stirring until the sugar is dissolved. In fact, it appears that sugar gives a distinct protection from deterioration, which is probably connected with its power of inhibiting certain forms of enzymic action.

Other precautions for rendering the preservation of fruits by freezing more reliable are:—(1) Reasonably rapid freezing; (2) exclusion of air from the containers in which the fruit is frozen; and (3) attention to matters like the degree of ripeness, quality, and variety of the fruit stored. As regards very rapid freezing ("quick freezing") it is a fact that Strawberries packed in syrup in tins and frozen in brine at from about—45 deg. C. to —28 deg C. and subsequently stored at —20 deg. C. will have a perfectly natural and bright appearance when opened. This is lost fairly

rapidly on thawing, however, and it seems doubtful whether quick freezing is worth while unless it can be carried out without adding materially to the cost. On the other hand, it is essential that fruit, particularly soft perishable fruit, should be handled expeditiously and brought to a sufficiently low temperature before it has time to deteriorate through fermentation or mould growth or any other cause. For this reason it is advisable that containers should not be too large; also matters like the precooling of added syrup are well worth considering.

## BANKRUPTCY INFORMATION.

### Voluntary Sequestration.

Black, Thomas W., 104 Unwin's Bridge-road, St. Peters (Sydney), (and carrying on business at the City Markets, Newcastle), fruit merchant. No. 206.

### Creditor's Petition.

Quin, S. H., "Selhurst," Galston (N.S.W.), orchardist. On petition of Norman F. Ward, Sydney. No. 226.

## AMONG THE RETAILERS. (Continued from page 39.)

case was lifted down to them from the grower's truck.

This class of dealing only in what ever lines happen to be scarce and thus cornering the market, has the effect of greatly inflating the price, which, unfortunately has to be eventually paid by the consumers: it is also greatly embarrassing to the grower who probably has not had similar produce on the market for some time.

It was suggested that to somewhat overcome the position these dealers should be segregated to a certain part of the market, similar to the dealers in the florists' section and then buyers would know whether they are purchasing from genuine growers or from some one who had already made a much larger profit than either grower or retailer was likely to make. It was eventually decided to defer action until a later meeting.

### Most Satisfactory.

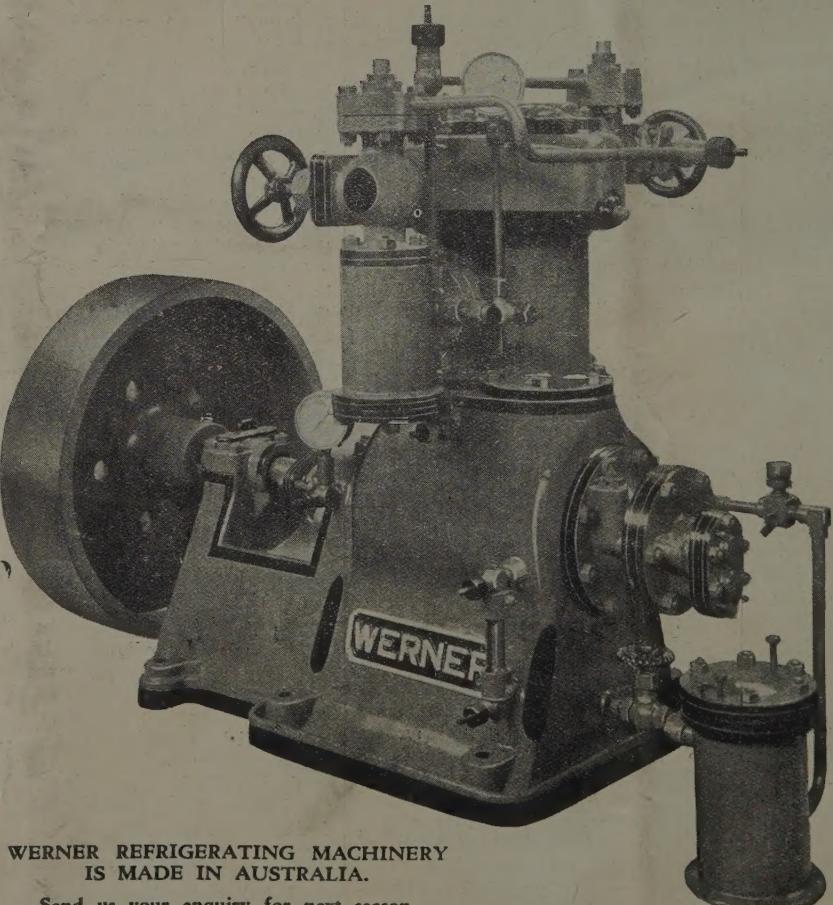
Officer (to couple parked in auto): "Don't you see that sign, 'Fine for parking'?"

"Yes, officer, I see it and heartily agree with it."

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